

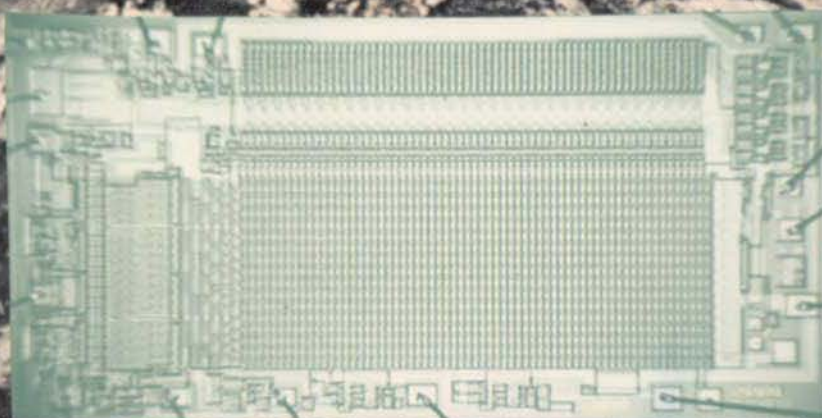
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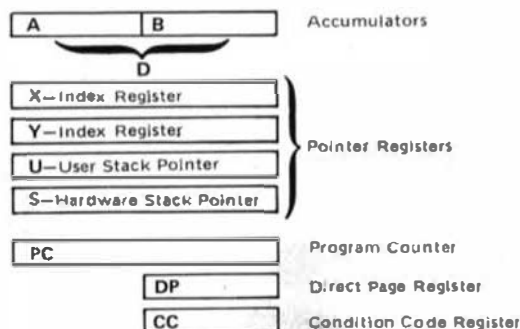
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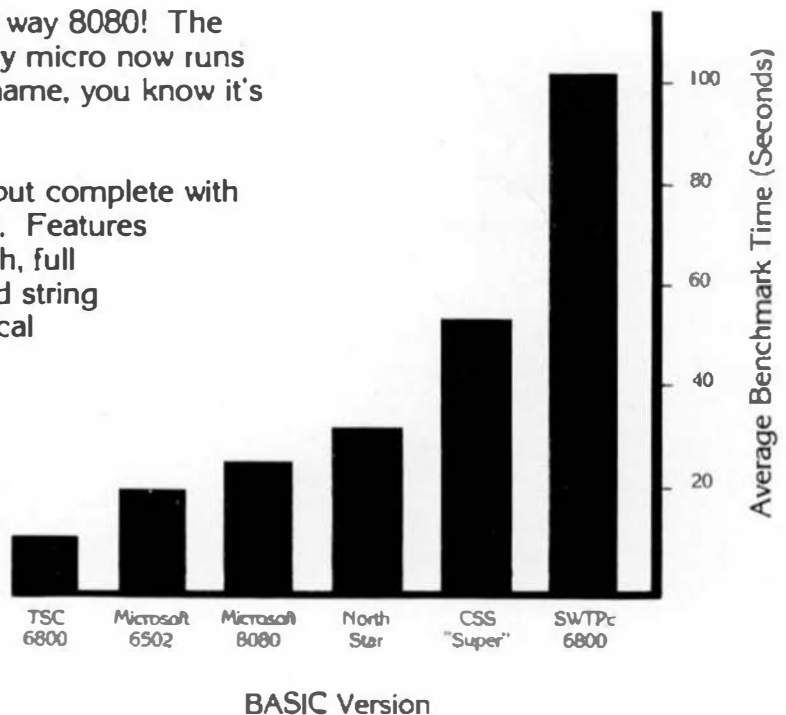
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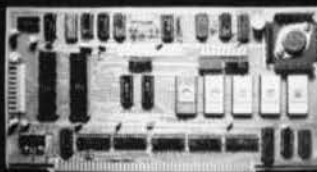
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CRUNCHERS CORNER

This monthly column is intended to provide a place for the exchange of ideas on microcomputer arithmetic. A systematic exposition of fixed and floating point arithmetic, hardware and software, algorithms for approximation and so on is planned. Questions and comments submitted to this column can be on any subject relevant to "numbercrunching," and should be addressed to:

Jack Bryant
Department of Mathematics
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

We ask that all correspondents supply their names and addresses.

MULTIPLE PRECISION ARITHMETIC

In last month's column, we introduced 8 bit unsigned and two's complement representations and presented a simple program to let one examine how the addition instruction acted. We also gave an example of a modelling problem (exponential growth) in which the size of the numbers quickly exceeded 8 bits. One point of this example is the following: before an 8 bit processor can be used in most problems, it must be taught to handle much longer than 8 bit data types. This month, we deal with 16 bit integers.

The 6800 has several instructions which deal directly with 16 bit data. They involve the three 16 bit internal registers: the index register X, the stack pointer S and the Program Counter PC. While the stack pointer could possibly be used in some arithmetic operations, this use would compromise one powerful feature of the 6800 (the non-maskable interrupt). We will refrain from using the stack pointer for any other purpose. The program counter is not really available to the outside world. This leaves the index register X. Instructions which involve X are

DEX	Decrement Index Register
INX	Increment Index Register
TXS	Transfer Index Register to Stack Pointer
TSX	Transfer Stack Pointer to Index Register
CPIX	Compare Index Register
LIX	Load Index Register
STX	Store Index Register

EXAMPLE OF USE OF INDEX REGISTER

```

0000 CE 00 00      *      LIX    $0000  LOAD INDEX REGISTER WITH $0000.
0003 8C 27 10  LOOP  CPX    $10000  SEE IF THERE YET.
0006 27 03          BEQ    STOP      NOT THERE. BUMP INDEX REGISTER.
0008 08           INX          TO IT AGAIN.
0009 20 F8          BPH    LOOP      FINISHED--INTERPRET PROCESTOP
000B 3F           STOP          ENI
NO ERROR(S) DETECTED

```

SYMBOL TABLE
LOOP 0003 STOP 000B

Listing 1. Simple program to illustrate use of Index register and storage order.

The first four of these instructions are single byte instructions which execute in 4 cycles. The next three have the same addressing modes as accumulator load, store and compare, and execute in only one more cycle than the corresponding accumulator A or B dual operand instructions. For example, the instruction sequence in Listing 1 executes the LOOP sequence 10000 times and then stops.

Note how the line labelled LOOP is translated:

```
0003 8C 27 10  LOOP  CPX  #10000
```

Note also that $10000_{10} = 52710_{16}$. The two byte operand containing the 16 bit numbers to which the index register is being compared is stored high-then-low. That is, the most significant bits have lower addresses. In order to take advantage of these index register instructions in arithmetic operations, we must store the more significant byte first (with lower address). (It seems strange to store numbers otherwise, but other microprocessors require the reverse order.)

SIXTEEN BIT INTEGERS

Two byte (16 bit) integers will be interpreted as unsigned integers from 0 to 65535 or as two's complement integers from -32768 to 32767. We will always store them as suggested above: in two successive memory locations with the MSB first and the LSB second. This month's column contains an integer arithmetic package containing input (i.e. ASCII to binary), addition and subtraction. Arithmetic is carried out on (software) 16 bit registers I and M: I contains the result of an operation between I and M. The initial contents of I are replaced by the results of the operation.

(Thus I can be thought of as an accumulator.) For example, addition can be coded:

```

ADDI  LDA  A  I+I  FETCH LSB
      ADD  A  M+I  ADD
      STA  A  I+I  STORE
      LDA  A  I    FETCH MSB
      ADC  A  M    ADD WITH CARRY
      STA  A  I    STORE

```

The instruction ADC lets the computer perform a double precision addition. The carry bit is kept in the condition code register and is automatically added in when ACCA is added to the contents of location M. (Luckily, load and store instructions do not change the carry condition code.) Subtraction

```

SUBI  LDA  A  I+I  FETCH LSB
      SUB  A  M+I  SUBTRACT
      STA  A  I+I  STORE
      LDA  A  I    FETCH MSB
      SBC  A  M    SUBTRACT WITH BORROW
      STA  A  I    STORE

```

Instruction SBC performs a borrow from the LSB subtraction if bit C was set.

These routines each require 12 bytes and execute in 20 cycles; an additional 14 cycles is required to treat them as subroutines. There is an unexpected potential problem: the two's complement overflow condition is not always flagged correctly at the conclusion of ADDI or SUBI, although the carry (unsigned overflow) condition is. Also, the Z (zero result) bit is

set when the MSB of the result is zero. The M (negative) bit is correct.

CONVERSION

From last month's discussion we know how to convert from decimal to binary by hand. In this process, we know the decimal representation is a number. The computer knows a decimal number as a string of symbols. Conversions from decimal to binary in the computer are really conversions from the symbols (the minus sign and digits 0-9) to numbers. The symbols are encoded in ASCII, a 7-bit code. The minus sign, for example, is \$10. The digits 0-9 are encoded \$30-\$39. It is thus easy to obtain the binary value of a digit (subtract \$30).

Once we have the digits, it is necessary to expand the representation. Recall (for example)

$$2743 = 2 \times 10^3 + 7 \times 10^2 + 4 \times 10 + 3.$$

This expression appears to require a table of constants for conversion and several complicated multiplications. However, notice the expression is actually a polynomial in the number 10. The correct way to evaluate a polynomial is to nest it. (This is called Horner's method, although the method was first used by Newton.) Nesting gives

$$2743 = 3 + 10(4 + 10(7 + 10(2)));$$

while the same number of multiplications and additions are involved, only one constant is required: the constant 10. Multiplication by 10 is carried out by writing $10 = 8 + 2$; multiplication by 8 is simply three left-shifts (with bit 0 being moved to the LSB). The following code multiplies the number in M, M+1 by 10, leaving the LSB in ACCB and the MSB in ACCA.

```

LDA M      ACCUMULATOR
LDA B M+1  SHIFTS ARE FASTER.
ASL B
ROL A      ZERO INTO BIT 0
ROL A      *2
STA M      SAVE TO
STA B M+1  ADD LATER
ASL B
ROL A      *4
ASL B
ROL A
ADD B M+1  ADD
ADC A M
...

```

The result ends with the MSB in A and LSB in B.

The only remaining conversion problem is the sign problem. In the sign-magnitude representation, negative numbers in decimal are preceded by a minus sign. In the program READI of Listing 2, a flag is set if a leading minus sign is found, and the two's complement negative of the binary result of conversion is taken. If the MSB is in A and LSB is in B, this can be coded in 5 bytes as

```

COM A      ONE'S COMPLEMENT MSB
NEG B      TWO'S COMPLEMENT LSB
BNE SKIP   CARRY IF B IS ZERO
INC A      ADD IN CARRY
SKIP ...

```

In Flowchart 1, the process outlined above is logically explained. Listing 2 subroutine READI performs this task. On entry, the B accumulator is saved. The index register points to the first byte of a string to be converted. On exit, the index register points to the next non-(0-9) character, and the number is in (M,M+1). No check on validity (such as too many decimal digits) is performed. Since this program is expected to advance the index register, it changes its value. On the other hand, the B accumulator is saved and restored so that it can have meaning outside the program. Of course, these restrictions and conventions need to be made known to the user (that is, need to be documented); our first discussion of this general problem follows.

PROGRAMMING CONVENTIONS, STORAGE AND SPEED

When a large programming project is being planned, it is necessary to establish programming conventions. These are the groundrules which each acceptable subroutine must meet. The 6800 concept has several features which let programs be almost "universal." For example, it is possible to write reentrant code which can be shared by several users; parameters are passed to the program through the stack or accumulators. Such programs generally use indexed addressing, which is slow. On the other hand, it is also possible to write programs which execute very rapidly. This is done using the direct (page zero absolute) addressing mode, which of course is not reentrant. The philosophy followed here places roughly the same premium on storage and speed, but does not aim for reentrant code.

The 256 bytes on page zero need to be managed carefully if many programs using memory here are to fit together. READI, for example, uses 4 bytes: (M, M+1) is a program variable. Two other temporary variables are required (ATEMP and MEGFLG); these page zero locations are available for use outside READI, but it must be understood that READI will change their contents. (M,M+1) is changed, but this is expected.

The groundrules followed here for all programs intended to exist as a "package" to be used by other programs are simple:

1. The A accumulator is purely local. That is, any subroutine may modify ACCA without warning.
2. The B accumulator, however, is global: a subroutine which changes ACCB must restore the original value before returning. The exceptions to this are obvious: B could be an input parameter (such as a counter which is expected to be decremented until its value is zero), or could be used to contain an output parameter. These exceptions must be carefully documented.
3. The index register X must similarly be global, with the same exceptions as apply to ACCB. This leads to an interesting memory management problem since no construct analogous to PSH B/PUL B exists for the index register. The code

```

ENTRY PSH B      SAVE ACCB ON STACK
      STX XTMP    PREPARE TO SAVE X
      LDA B XTMP
      PSH B      SAVE X
      LDA B XTMP+1
      PSH B
      ...
EXIT  PUL B
      STA B XTMP+1

```

```

PUL B      RESTORE X
STA B XTMP
LOX XTMP
PUL B      RESTORE ACCB
RTS

```

simulates the convention required, but is lengthy and slow. (A PSX/PUX instruction pair would be handy.) Of course this is only required for programs which might (directly or indirectly) call themselves. The memory management problem can be solved by setting aside page zero temporaries for each "package" of subroutines.

- Each program must consist of code which executes in read only memory (ROM). (By using temporary random access memory (RAM) to execute very short programs with self-modifying code, we can retain this useful feature.)
- Each program must tolerate the non-maskable interrupt instruction. In particular, the stack pointer is not to be used as an index register.

INPUT/OUTPUT

Subroutine READI of Listing 2 expects a decimal integer in ASCII to be pointed to by the index register. If one is found, it is translated and placed in M. Control returns to the calling program with the index register pointing to the next character which is not a digit 0-9.

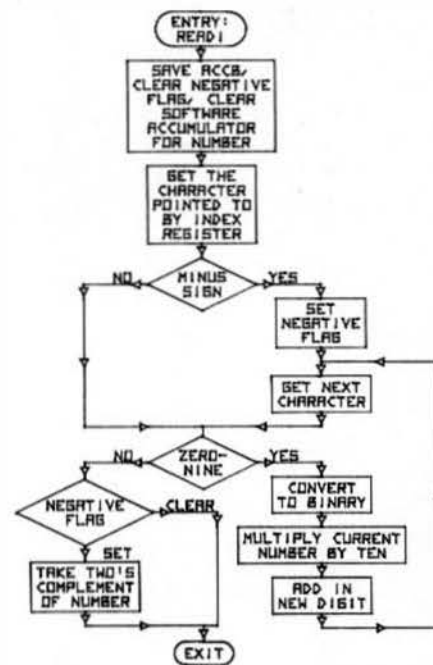
	BEFORE	AFTER
RAM		
D100	INDEX = +	-
D101	1	1
D102	0	0
D103	4	4
D104	9	9
D105	+	INDEX = +
D106	2	2
D107	1	1
D108	0	0

Subroutine INPUT in Listing 2 performs the simple task of transferring numbers and operands from the computer console to the input buffer. Only checking for a "return" (ASCII \$0D) is performed; this is echoed by a linefeed and control is returned to the calling program. (The input buffer is always accessed using indexed addressing and accordingly need not be given page zero memory space.)

Subroutine OUTPUT prints the result of the computation in hexadecimal. Next month, we discuss binary to signed decimal ASCII conversions. For the time being, we simply print the value of 1 in hex. This is useful since we also get a feeling for the hex representation.

The main program in Listing 2 is the subroutine BANG. This routine scans the input buffer looking for a sequence operand, operator, operand, The operands are converted to 16 bit binary with subroutine READI. Allowable operators are + and -. The line is assumed to be terminated by a carriage return. When an illegal character is found, a '?' is printed on the system console and control is returned to the calling program.

In next month's column, we discuss multiplication, division and conversion from binary to ASCII. The program in Listing 2 will be expanded to a 16 bit "four banger."



FLOW CHART 1: CONVERSION ASCII → BINARY

Listing 1. Integer Arithmetic Package, Version 0.1

The main features of the package as developed so far are conversion from ASCII to binary, addition and subtraction, and a program to interpret (left-to-right) a string of operands (numbers) and operators (+, - and RETURN) entered from the system console.

INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE V0.1

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```

* MIBUG EQUATES
*
PDATA1 EQU $E07E BLOCK OUTPUT
INEEE EQU $E1AC INPUT ONE CHARACTER
OUTEEE EQU $E1B1 CHARACTER OUTPUT ROUTINE
OUT4MS EQU $EAC8 HEX OUTPUT ROUTINE TWO BYTES
*
* PAGE ZERO CONSTANTS
*
OPG $F0
PMB 1 TEMPORARY ACCUMULATOR STORE
INBUF PMB 2 INPUT BUFFER BEGINNING
NEGFLG PMB 1 NEGATIVE INPUT FLAG
M PMB 2 SOFTWARE ACCUMULATOR
I PMB 2 SOFTWARE ACCUMULATOR
XTMP PMB 2 TEMPORARY STORAGE FOR INDEX REGISTER
*
* INDEXED REGISTER ADDRESSED STORAGE ON PAGE 1
*
OPG $02A0 TEST ROUTINE STARTS HERE
*
* TEST PROGRAM FOR INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE
* VERSION 0.1
*
LDX BCDP PDATA1 START WITH A NEW LINE.
JSP PDATA1 GET NUMBER AND OPERATOR STPING
LIX INBUF
BSP BANG PERFORM OPERATIONS
BSP BOUT PRINT THE RESULT
BPA TEST DO IT AGAIN
*
* INPUT SUBROUTINE
*
SUBROUTINE TO TAKE A STRING FROM THE CONSOLE
AND STORE IN INPUT BUFFER.
*
INPLT STX XTMP SAVE INDEX REGISTER
PMB B CLP B SAVE ACCB
LIX 4$100 SET COUNTER
INPLT INBUF INPUT BUFFER STARTS AT $100
JSP INEEF GET A CHARACTER
ISTACH STA A 0XX STORE IT
INX

```



```

021F 5C      INC B      BUMP COUNTER
0220 29 1E    RVS IFULL  BUFFER SIZE = 127
0222 81 0D    CMP A <=0  CR?

```

```

0298 08 F8    ADD B M+1  *
029A 99 F4    ADC A M     *
029C 08 F0    ADD B XTEMP  *
029E 89 00    ADC A 00     *
02A0 36        PCH A      *
02A1 20 0B    BNA NEXT    *
02A3 32        NOTONE     *
02A4 7D 00 F3  TST NEGFLG  *
02A7 27 05    BEO SKIP     *

```

INTEGRER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE V0.1

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```

0224 26 F3    BNE INEXT    NOPE
0226 CE 02 CE  IENTRY LDM ACFLD  LOAD DATA FOR CR/LF
0228 1D E0 7E  JCR FDATA1
022C DE F8    LDM XTEMP  RESTORE INDEX REGISTER
022E 33        PUL B
022F 39        RTS
0231 09        IFULL
0231 06 0D    LDM A 00D  BUFFER FULL: GENERATE CR.
0233 20 E7    BNA ISTASH

```

```

*
*   OUTPUT SUBROUTINE
*
*   THIS PROGRAM OUTPUTS 1 IN HEX.
*
0235 DF F8    OUTPUT STX XTEMP  STASH X
0237 CE 00 F6  LDM 01  LOAD WITH ADDRESS OF 1
0239 BD E0 C8  JSR OUTAMS  PRINT IT
023D CE 02 CE  LDM ACFLD  PRINT A CR/LF
0240 1D E0 7E  JSR FDATA1
0243 DE F8    LDM XTEMP  RESTORE X
0245 39        RTS

```

```

*
*   SUBROUTINE BANG
*
*   THIS SUBROUTINE TAKES THE STRING IN THE INPUT
*   BUFFER AND LOCATES THE OPERATORS AND CONSTANTS
*   AND CALLS THE APPROPRIATE ROUTINE TO APPLY THE
*   OPERATION.
*

```

```

*   OPERATIONS TO KNOW:
*
*   + ADDITION:  I := I + M
*   - SUBTRACTION: I := I - M

```

```

0246 37    BANG  PCH B      CONVERT ONE NUMBER
0247 8D 28    BSR READ1  SAVE THE
0249 9A F4    LDA A M     FIRST ONE
024B 97 F6    STA A 1     IN I
024D 96 F8    LDA M+1
024F 97 F7    STA A 1+1  TOO.
0251 E6 00    BANGH LDA A 0+1  LOAD THE OPERATOR
0253 09    INK  POINT TO NEXT OPERAND
0254 C1 20    CMP B 020A  SEE IF A CONTROL CHARACTER
0256 2D 17    BLT OVER  GET THE NEXT OPERAND
0258 8D 17    BSR READ1
025A C1 2B    CMP B 020F
025C 26 04    BNE SUBO
025E 8D 54    BSR ADD1  ADD
0260 20 EF    BNA BANGH
0262 C1 2D    SUBO  CMP B 020-

```

INTEGRER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE V0.1

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```

0264 26 04    BNE ERROR
0266 8D 59    BSR SUB1  SUBTRACT
0268 20 E7    BNA BANGH  DO IT AGAIN
026A 86 3F    ERROR LDA A 0??  LOAD AN ERROR FLAG.
026C 8D E1 D1  JCR QUTEEE  PRINT IT
026F 33    OVER  PUL B
0270 39    RTS  RESTORE ACCB

```

```

*
*   READ SUBROUTINE
*
*   ENTER WITH INDEX REGISTER POINTING TO STRING
*   TO BE CONVERTED TO 16 BIT BINARY.
*
*   EXIT WITH INDEX REGISTER POINTING TO NEXT NON
*   10-9 OR LEADING MINUS SIGN AND WITH NUMBER IN M.

```

```

0271 37    READ1 PCH B      SAVE ACCB
0272 5F    CLR B  CLEAR ACCUMULATOR
0273 37    PCH B
0274 D7 F3    STA B NEGFLG  CLEAR NEGATIVE FLAG
0276 A6 00    LDA A 00X  GET DIGIT/SIGN
0278 81 2D    CMP A 0?-  LEADING MINUS?
027A 26 05    BNE GOODH  NO
027C 97 F3    STA A NEGFLG  YES
027E 08    INK  PREPARE TO GET NEXT ONE.
027F A6 00    LDA A 00X  DO IT
0281 81 30    CMP A 0-0  IS ZERO?
0283 2D 1E    BLT NOTONE  NO NINE?
0285 81 39    CMP A 0-9
0287 2E 1A    BGT NOTONE
0289 00 3A    SUB A 0-0  GOT ONE. CONVERT TO BINARY
028B 97 F0    STA A TEMP  SAVE FOR LATER
028D 32    PUL A
028E 58    ROL B
028F 49    ROL A
0290 97 F4    STA A M
0292 D7 F8    STA B M+1
0294 58    ROL B
0295 49    ROL A
0296 58    ROL B
0297 49    ROL A

```

INTEGRER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE V0.1

'68 MICRO JOURNAL

```

02A9 43    COM A      MAKE IT NEGATIVE.
02AB 5A    NEG B
02AD 26 01    BNE SKIP  CARRY OUT
02AD 4C    INC A      STASH THE NUMBER
02AE 97 F4    STA B M+1  WE BUILT.
02B0 07 F9    PUL B  RESTORE ACCB
02B2 33    RTS
02B3 39

```

```

*
*   SUBROUTINE ADD1
*
*   ADDS M TO I AND PLACES THE RESULT IN I.

```

```

02B4 96 F7    ADD1 LDA A I+1
02B6 98 F8    ADD A M+1
02B8 97 F7    STA A I+1
02BA 96 F6    LDA A 1
02BC 99 F4    ADC A M
02BE 97 F4    STA A 1
02C0 39    RTS

```

```

*
*   SUBROUTINE SUB1
*
*   SUBROUTINE TO SUBTRACT CONTENTS OF M FROM I AND
*   PLACE IN I.

```

```

02C1 9A F7    SUB1 LDA A I+1
02C3 9D F5    SUB A M+1
02C5 97 F7    STA A I+1
02C7 9A F6    LDA A 1
02C9 92 F4    SRC A M
02CB 97 F4    STA A 1
02CD 39    RTS

```

```

02CE 0D    COLED FCB 0D+0A+4 DATA FOR CR/LF
02CF 0A 04    END
NO ERROR(S) DETECTED

```

SYMBOL TABLE:

ADD1	02B4	ATEMP	00F0	BANG	0246	BANGH	0251
ACFLD	02CE	ERROR	026A	GOODH	0281	I	00F
IENTRY	0226	IFULL	0230	INRUF	00F1	INEE	E1F
INEXT	0219	INPHI	0210	ISTASH	021C	M	00F
NEGFLG	00F3	NEXT	027E	NOTONE	02A3	OUTAMS	E0C
INTEGE	E1D1	OUTPUT	029A	OVER	026F	PDATA1	E07
READ1	0271	SKIP	02AE	SUB1	02C1	SUBO	02C
TEST	0206	XTEMP	00F8				

A Look at the SWTPC CT-82 Video Terminal

Mickey E. Ferguson
POB 708
Trenton, GA 30752



You probably know Southwest Technical Products Corporation best as a manufacturer of 6800 based computer systems. But they were in the computer terminal business for quite some time before they started making computers. SWTPC's first terminal was the TVT-1. The TVT-II (or CT-1024, if you prefer) was their next offering and was the most popular terminal with computer hobbyists in it's day. The 1024, as it was most

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often called by hobbyists, was restricted to only thirty-two upper case characters per line, sixteen lines per screen, and a maximum baud rate of 1200 bps. It also had no chassis or case. In its favor, the 1024 was economical (about \$300) and it worked and worked and worked. As a result a "cottage industry" developed, offering after-market modifications to add scrolling, sixty-four character line length, lower case, etc. Then SWTPC replaced the 1024 with the CT-64; to calm the restless natives it offered most of the features that CT-1024 owners had been adding to their terminals. In addition, the CT-64 came with an excellent Motorola video monitor as well as a chassis and cover.

A REAL terminal is here now. It is the CT-82, and it sets new standards for video terminals. End of history lesson.

Forget everything that you may know about video terminals because it no longer applies. The CT-82 is the first of an entirely new generation of video terminals. It is built around a 6802 microprocessor and a 6845 CRT controller chip. A what? A CRT controller chip (CRTC), of course. According to Motorola, "The MC6845 CRT Controller performs the interface to raster scan CRT displays. It is intended for use in processor-based controllers for CRT terminals." The CRTC takes care of the video generation, video timing, etc.; while the 6802 communicates with you thru the keyboard, with the computer thru an RS-232 interface, and (optionally) with a printer thru a parallel interface. The CRTC and the 6802 communicate with each other and with memory via a common address and data bus. So the CRTC and the microprocessor work together as a stand alone memory mapped video display. Since the 6802 works in memory during one phase of the clock, while the CRTC is in memory during the other phase; each is able to operate at maximum speed. Neither device slows the operation of the other and each needs never be aware of the fact the other device ever has control of the bus. The end result, the CT-82, is a terminal that costs less and does more than seems reasonably possible. But, is the CT-82 really a terminal? Isn't it really a microcomputer that simply thinks it is a terminal? Whatever the CT-82 may actually be inside, it is a quality video terminal at a reasonable price.

First Impressions

I had difficulty believing the little box that the UPS man brought actually contained my CT-82. How could a container so small have a CRT terminal inside? Upon lifting the box, I was completely convinced that a horrible mistake had been made. It did not weigh enough to have a complete CRT terminal in it. But it did. The CT-82 only weighs about twenty pounds (9 kg) and measures ten inches (25.4 cm) high, by eighteen inches (45.7 cm) wide, by seventeen inches (43.2 cm) deep.

SWTPC has been advertising the CT-82 just about everywhere except in porno magazines, so you must have seen its picture. The pictures do not do it justice. The CT-82 is cute (my wife says it's darling) unlike its predecessor, the CT-64. It blends well into almost any home or office environment without attracting undue attention to itself or creating an eyesore.

The nine inch (diagonally measured) CRT caused some disappointment on my part initially. But this was countered by the "sensual feel of the keyboard" (to quote John Craig, Editor of Creative Computing). The keyboard uses Cherry keyswitches for both high reliability and excellent feel. There is also a twelve key pad for cursor control and editing functions in addition to the regular keyboard. Optionally, the cursor control pad can be replaced with a numeric pad should you desire it enough to pay extra for the added convenience. Other than the keyboard, the only external controls are the power switch and the configure switch. There is a DB-25 female RS232 connector on the rear of the CT-82 for communication with the outside world.

The configure switch allows the user to tell the CT-82 what is expected of it when power is first applied. It has two positions, which are auto and programmable. With the configure switch in the auto position, the CT-82 assumes it is to operate in the conversational mode, in full duplex, with sixteen lines per screen, at 9600 baud. With the configure switch in the programmable position, the power up options are controlled by an internal dip switch. The dip switch allows the user to select either conversational or paged edit modes, half

generator installed, in the graphics mode the CT-82 displays twenty two lines of ninety two characters. The upper case character set is the standard ASCII upper case, while the lower case is composed of graphic symbols. For graphics purposes, each character position is divided into six pixels (two horizontally by three vertically). This gives a resolution of one hundred eighty four pixels horizontally and sixty six pixels vertically. The limitation on graphics resolution in the standard CT-82 is the amount of memory in the terminal. I will not be at all surprised when some enterprising individual devises a simple modification to expand the graphics resolution of the CT-82 to five hundred twelve horizontal by two hundred fifty six vertical.

The graphics character set in SWTPC's character generator, in my opinion, leaves much to be desired. When I am attempting to use the graphic character set, I invariably need some symbol that is not there. However, this does not present as much of a problem as you might think because you do not have to use the graphics character set. You see, the CT-82 can also do co-ordinate graphics (like the TRS-80). In fact, any graphics program written for the TRS-80 can be easily modified to run on a computer using the CT-82. The biggest difference between graphics on the TRS-80 and the CT-82 is that the CT-82 can do more with less programming. To draw a graphics line on the TRS-80, you must turn on each pixel individually. If you know the starting and ending points of the line, the CT-82 can draw the entire line for you with a single command from the computer. The CT-82 can also invert your graphics allowing white on black or black on white. Careful use of the CT-82's Yaw, Pitch, Slide, Roll, Scroll, and Invert commands lets you approach animation. This is particularly impressive at 38.4k baud.

As mentioned earlier, SWTPC is offering a companion editor for use with 6800 systems utilizing FLEX and a CT-82. It is the first piece of software offered by SWTPC that was written by SWTPC, and they "modestly" refer to it as THE EDITOR. Thru the efforts of Dan Meyer at SWTPC, I was able to get an early copy of their Editor for evaluation.

The Editor works from input file to memory to output file; it is able to make multiple passes thru the file without returning to the operating system. As a new pass is begun, the old output file becomes the new input file and the old input file becomes the new output file. The Editor uses two different types of commands. There are alphabetic commands like D - delete, I - insert, and F - find. There are also commands that are entered from the cursor control pad. For example, pressing the FORM key on the cursor control pad moves the text on the screen up nineteen lines or one page. A puzzling feature of the editor is its ability of text manipulation by line number. This is interesting because it does not use nor display line numbers.

The choice and evaluation of text editors is a very subjective business. A lot depends upon the type of work done with the editor. Everyone seems to have his or her personal favorite. I must admit that I prefer the TSC editor to the SWTPC editor. Don Williams takes the opposing view preferring the SWTPC editor. *[Ed's Note: I actually prefer the TSC Editor for some functions and the SWTPC Editor for others. An example is our mailing list; the SWTPC Editor is much simpler to use. For text, such as this article I prefer the TSC Editor.]*

The CT-82 is indeed an impressive terminal, but has perfection been achieved? I scarcely thought so, at first. The 9" monitor just had to be too small. After living with it for a while my opinion has changed. The 12" monitor on my old terminal seems too big. One does not look at the CRT on a terminal from across the room and at normal viewing distances, the 9" CRT is quite adequate. This is perhaps enhanced by its extreme sharpness and clarity. It is rather unusual for a CRT to be focused properly at all points on the screen. Often the edges are fuzzy when the center is sharp, and vice versa. Such is not the case with the CT-82, the display is very sharply focused at all points on the CRT screen. All of the CT-82's I have seen have shared this characteristic, which causes me to believe that it is not unique to my terminal. I have acquired the habit of using the graphics character generator (with the 92 by 22 screen format) any time that I do not need lower case. This

generator installed, in the graphics mode the CT-82 displays twenty two lines of ninety two characters. The upper case character set is the standard ASCII upper case, while the lower case is composed of graphic symbols. For graphics purposes, each character position is divided into six pixels (two horizontally by three vertically). This gives a resolution of one hundred eighty four pixels horizontally and sixty six pixels vertically. The limitation on graphics resolution in the standard CT-82 is the amount of memory in the terminal. I will not be at all surprised when some enterprising individual devises a simple modification to expand the graphics resolution of the CT-82 to five hundred twelve horizontal by two hundred fifty six vertical.

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format gives characters about the same size as an office typewriter and puts more information on the screen at one time. Now the 9" monitor seems too big when I have to use either of the lower case screen formats.

I nearly threw that "sensuous" keyboard in the garbage. I thought SWTPC had done it again. Keys that felt like mush, keys that didn't do anything, and most of the keys were double striking. However the mushy keys and the non-working keys were the fault of the shippers. And the double striking keys were caused by a capacitor of the wrong value not by the key switches. It seems that some early CT-82's (mine included) had a .001 mfd instead of a .01 mfd capacitor for C8 on the keyboard. If you have an early CT-82 with double striking keys, I urge you to check the value of this capacitor.

My biggest complaint (and only really valid one) is the lack of a RESET button. I'm not the best programmer around and my programs often run away printing wildly. A run away program cannot suppress the printing of control characters. Many strange control character sequences are printed which configure the CT-82 in ways it was never intended to be configured. The only way to recover is to turn the power off on the CT-82. I need a means of recovery such as a RESET button. Or some way to return to the configuration established when the CT-82 is turned on, short of turning power off.

Conclusion

The CT-82 is one of the brightest of the smart terminals available today and truly a pleasure to use. For the approximate cost of a dumb terminal (\$795) it is probably today's best buy in CRT terminals. It offers many features unavailable on terminals costing three times as much. Unlike the earlier offerings from SWTPC, the CT-82 is truly a professional quality terminal. But like all SWTPC products, it has a "hobbyist quality" price.

** SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE **

As most readers are aware, 68 Micro Journal came out approximately one month late. This was a direct result of a paper order mistake that was beyond our control. As a result we ended up placing the magazine, in the hands of the postal

service, near the end of the monthly issue date. Most February copies were received in March. Issue number 1 was dated February 1979 and mailed the latter part of February. It should have been mailed the latter part of January 1979. So, we were a month late.

In order that we may get back to a more normal schedule, this issue is dated March-April 1979. The May issue then can be mailed at a more reasonable time; latter part of April. This will in no way cause any subscriber to miss a single issue of 68 Micro Journal. It simply means that if your subscription was due to expire in January 1980, it will expire with the February issue 1980. So you see, you will still have received 12 separate issues, one each month, provided yours is a one year subscription. Of course if you are subscribed for two or three years the same hold true, for the one month extension. Life subscribers of course really don't care, that is just as long as they receive 68 Micro Journal each month, till then. They will.

LETTERS

Tom Harmon
Box 493
Laurel, Md.
20810
To: Don Williams

Dear Mr. Williams,

A comment about your FLEX TO BFD article; This is the kind of article that I think that most of the readers enjoy but, I must pick at the reasons given by Mr. Puckett for the conversion to FLEX. His comment that the TTYSET utility is an overpowering reason to change to FLEX is lost on me. I also have written a conversion and ran FLEX only to find out that when I set the TTYSET for my video terminal (16 lines and then stop) that the damn thing also stopped in the middle of a BASIC programme. BASIC uses the disk IO for its' IO and this is very disturbing.

I also found the forced extensions a total mess as in the SMOKE DOS I have about 10 megabytes of software and cannot

afford to have TXT after every text file.

VERY IMPORTANT is the fact that my editor and my word processor and my BASIC int. as well as compiler can read and work on ANY file of ANY kind when there are NO forced extensions.

I find this and the almost unlimited utilities available alone to set the SMOKE DOS so much ahead of FLEX that I can't find anyone in this area who uses flex anymore. By the way, SMOKE sells a board for SWTP disk users that will upgrade them in hardware and software to the SMOKE System.

Don't forget that on the SMOKE I have: Several BASIC's, (2 are compilers), Fortran, Pilot, Fourth, Random access (for a while now), and the detail that ALL software used on SMOKE DOS 'MON68' (the first), thru DOS4.2, will run on any other version with no changes. That is software! Please don't forget that all of this is compatible with existing hardware and software. Have any of you tried running FLEX 8" with a 32k board? FLEX 5 and FLEX 8 cannot copy a programme from one to the other without a lot of hassle. On my SMOKE I run 2ea 8" drives mixed with 2ea 5" drives, AND THE SOFTWARE DOES'T CARE!!

All in all, I enjoyed the article, but you can see I am very opinionated. Thanks for the great magazine!

Tom Harmon

Howard Berenbon
27200 Franklin Rd. #105
Southfield, MI 48034

6800 RELATIVE MODE BRANCHING, BY HAND

Here's a simple method for the machine language programmer to aid in calculating the values of relative mode branches with the 6800. It's called "COUNT".

Using "COUNT" eliminates the need to derive the branch value with



March 6, 1979

Don Williams Sr.
68 Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Road
P.O. Box 849
Hixson, Tenn. 37343

Dear Don,


Congratulations on a fine first issue. We will be proud to sell the 68 Micro Journal and advertise in it too.

One thing though, in the article by our old friend Dale Puckett, "FLS to BFD", he says that the Computer Mart of New York told him that the SMOKE Signal System was the only one to consider because of the poor software delivered with the SWTPC HP-68. That was correct at the time, because South West was supplying a disk operating system called PDOS with the HP-68. We considered that to be inferior to the BFD operating system and I suppose that SWTPC did also because they changed to FLS.

As one of the oldest computer stores selling 6800 equipment, we are dedicated to providing support to 6800 users. We have sold SWTPC, MSI, SMOKE Signal equipment for three years now and 6800 users are our most loyal customers.

It is about time that there was a publication devoted to the most reliable and interesting of all computer systems.

Sincerely,


Stan Velt
Storekeeper

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two's-compliment arithmetic, thus eliminating a tedious chore. I use a subtraction method to arrive at the required value, quickly.

"COUNT" allows calculating values for 'forward' and 'backward' relative branches. The method for calculating these branch values are not identical, but similar. Although the examples given for forward and backward "COUNT" are very short branch distances, these rules may be applied successfully to branches whose destinations are + and - 128 (decimal).

"COUNT" is quick and simple to use. It eliminates using two's compliment arithmetic and save time for the machine language programmers. (Ed's note: Bless their hearts, long may they live and code.)

Forward Branching

Forward branching is somewhat simpler than backward, requiring only a value (in hex) as the distance from the address of the branch statement to it's forward destination, minus 02. In other words,

subtract the address of the branch statement from the address of the branch destination. Then subtract 02 from the value (see example below). Destination address - Branch address - 02 = Branch value:

Example:

Address	Object Code	Mnemonic	
1000	B6 1020 SUB	LDAA NUMBER	100B
1003	26 03	BNE DEST	-1003
1005	C6 09	LDAB 09	-----
1007	39	RTS	05
1008	4A DEST	DECA	-02
1009	B7 1020	STAA NUMBER	-----
100C	7E 1000	JMP SUB	03

Backward Branching

Backward "COUNT" is calculated by subtracting the backward destination address from the branch statement address, and a 01 is added to the result. Then, the final value is subtracted from FF (hex) to arrive at the branch value.

$FF = \{(Branch\ address - Destination\ address) + 01\} = Backward\ Branch\ Value:$

Example:

Address	Object Code	Mnemonic	
1000	B6 1020 UP	LDAA NUMBER	1008
1003	26 05	BNE LOW	-1000
1005	C6 10	LDAB 10	-----
1007	4A	DECA	08
1008	20 F6	BRA UP	+01
100A	39	LOW RTS	-----
			09
			FF
			-09

			F6

The following is presented for those who prefer to let the computer, do the work. The catch is, if you are in memory, writing a program, it is bad to jump out and call a machine program, to do it for you. Therefore; HAVE IT BOTH WAYS.....

RELATIVE BRANCH CALCULATOR

By: Dale Heatherington

Calculating Relative Addresses

The calculation of relative addresses for branch instructions on the Motorola 6800 (or Zi-log Z-80 or MOS 650X) may appear formidable at first to the beginner. However, this skill is required in order to manually code machine language instructions for short routines, as is often done to avoid the time required for an assembly, or in order to modify existing routines which have already been loaded into memory. The procedure for manually calculating short jumps (and most are short) is relatively simple, however. It involves a counting processes.

First consider jumps forward in the following routine:

0100	86 0200	LDAA	Load A with contents of 0200.
0103	81 45	CMPA	Is the value 45?
0105	27 -	BEQ	If equal go to 010A.
0107	20 -	BRA	If not, go to 0100.
0108	4C -	INCA	Add 1 to A.
010A	BD 0400	JSR	Go to subroutine at 0400.

In this routine the relative address for BEQ (27 __) to jump forward to 010A is counted as follows:

(00)	(01)
0107	20 --
	(02)
0109	4C
	(03)
010A	BD 0400

Start counting at the next byte after the address with 00 and count forward to the desired address, in this case 03, so the correct instruction is 27 03. So the correct address for the blank is FF. This will cause the jump back to 0100 as desired.

Remember: to jump forward, count forward from the relative address starting with 00 for the next byte, and to jump backward, start with the relative address byte as FF and count backward to the desired address. Double-check backward branches by counting forward from the calculated value, hopefully ending up with FF for the branch value. Double-check forward branches by counting forward again, as noted before.

If, in calculating a long branch, the resultant value cannot be contained in one byte (greater than FF for a forward branch or less than 00 for a backward branch), the branch is illegal as stated and must be changed to a jump or a chain of branches.

If a Motorola 6800 is available during the coding process, this same process may be automated by the use of the program below. The program starts at hex 0400 and is 112 bytes long. It makes use of two MIKBUG I/O subroutines, BADDR at E047 and PDATA1 at E07E.

When the program is started it will type "FROM". You should then type the address of the second byte of the branch instruction. Typing any character other than a valid hex digit will cause a return to MIKBUG. The program will then type "TO". You should then type in the target address of the branch. The program will then respond with the word "BRANCH" followed by the offset to be entered as the second byte of the branch instruction. If the target address is out of range the word "ERROR" will be printed. The program will loop back to its start and print "FROM" again. This process will be repeated until the RESET button is depressed.

For backward branches, the counting is similar, except start

	(F7)	(F8)	(F9)
0100	06 (FA)	0200 (FD)	
0103	81 (FC)	45 (FD)	
0105	27 (FE)	03 (FF)	
0107	20	--	BRA Go to 0106.

		NAM		CAL		
		'RELATIVE BRANCH'				
		'CALCULATOR FOR 8800				
		'BY DALE HEATHERINGTON				
		'10/14/78				
		'MICRO ROUTINES AT 80007				
		'AND SECTE ARE USED				
0400		OPT	0			
		ORG	5	50400		
	04	EOU	50498			
0400	8E	LOS	525K			START PROGRAM HERE
0403	CE	LOX	5FROM			PRINT "FROM"
0406	BD	JSR	SE07E			
0409	DD	JSR	SE047			INPUT ADDRESS
040C	FF	STX	SAVE			STORE IT
040F	CE	LOX	5TO			PRINT "TO"
0412	DD	JSR	SE07E			
0415	1Q	JSA	SE047			INPUT ADDRESS
0418	FF	STX	SAVE + 2			STORE IT
041B	14	JSR	COMPUTE			COMPUTE BRANCH
041D	CE	LOX	5BRANCH			PRINT "BRANCH"
0420	DD	JSR	SE07E			
0423	CE	LOX	5SAVE + 5			PRINT VALUE OF BRANCH
0426	BD	EOBF	JSR			
0429	CE	LOX	5CRLF			OUTPUT CARRAGE RET.
042C	DD	JSR	SE07E			
042F	20	CF	START			LOOP BACK TO THE START
0431	CE	LOX	5SAVE			INDEX POINTS TO STORAGE AREA
0434	88	01	LOA A	1.X		GET "FROM" ADDRESS TO A88
0436	88	00	LOA B	0.X		
0438	43		COM A			INVERT ALL BITS IN A & B
0439	53		COM B			
043A	8B	02	ADO A	3.X		DO A 16 BIT ADD WITH
043C	89	02	ADC B	2.X		THE "TO" ADDRESS
043E	47	08	STA A	8.X		STORE LSB OF RESULT
0440	C1	FF	CMPP B	5EFF		COMPARE ALSO OF RESULT W/FF HEX
0442	27	02	BEG	BACK		BRANCH IF EQUAL
0444	5D		TST B			TEST B
0445	26	08	BNE	ERR		BRANCH IF NOT ZERO
0447	4D		TST A			TEST LSB OF RESULT
0448	28	06	BNN	ERR		ERROR IF MINUS
044A	38		RTS			NO ERROR, RETURN
044B	4D		TST A			TEST LSB OF RESULT
044C	2A	01	PL	ERR		ERROR IF PLUS
044E	38		RTS			NO ERROR, RETURN
044F	CE	0413	LOX	5ERROR		PRINT "ERROR"
0451	BD	EO7E	JSR	SE07E		
0453	26		RTS			RETURN
		'MESSAGE AREA				
0456	00	FROM PCB		900.50A		
0457	0A		FCC	5.FROM		
0458	48					
0459	52					
045A	4F					
045B	4D					
045C	20					
045D	04		FCB	4		
045E	00	TO	FCB	800.50A		
045F	0A					
0460	20		FCC	5. TO		
0461	20					
0462	54					
0463	4F					
0464	20					
0465	04		FCB	84		
0466	00	BRANCH	FCB	900.50A		
0467	0A					
0468	43		FCC	7.BRANCH		
0469	52					
046A	41					
046B	4E					
046C	43					
046D	48					
046E	20	</				

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While the program as is does a fine job, it can be readily changed for other output formats. The label formatter prints four lines of address and two blank lines for each label. A strip of blank labels and a Decwriter are used for printing. The number of printable lines may be changed at location \$0086 and the number of blank lines may be changed by adding more or less JSR PCRLF statements at location \$0135.

Use of the TSC Text Editor (C) is invaluable when inputting a new file or updating an existing file. The address files are stored in FLEX (TM) minidisk files, and are compatible with the text editor, FLEX BUILD utility or SWTPC BASIC.

```

1.00 LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME
2.00 STREET ADDRESS
3.00 CITY, STATE
4.00 ZIP      HAM CALL
5.00 CODES   *PHONE
6.00
7.00 LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME
8.00 STREET ADDRESS
9.00 CITY, STATE
10.00 ZIP      HAM CALL
11.00 CODES   *PHONE
12.00

```

The last entry must be followed by

twelve blank lines and a line containing one or more 'UP ARROWS'. The 'UP ARROW' character tells the MAILLIST program that it should finish. The twelve blank lines look like two blank entries. These are printed as blanks.

Line 11 above can be used for special codes as you see fit and these will be printed. Line 11 also shows how an unlisted (private) phone number is treated. When a '*' character is found, it and that which follow it are not printed, unless you indicate it is not a PRIVATE file, when asked at the start of the program. Lines 6 and 12 are normally blank, but may contain other information (which will not be printed). Only the formatted list will print lines 5 and 11, so the mailing labels will not have phone numbers on them.

To use the program type MAILLIST, FILENAME. The text file will be pulled off disk and stored in memory. The program will ask if it is a private file, type 'Y' if you do not want anything following the '*' to be printed. Otherwise type 'N'. Next, type 'M' followed by a carriage return for mailing labels, or 'L' followed by a carriage return for a formatted list.

Try a small file first (about six names and addresses) and run the program. Then get busy and enter all the names and addresses you might have. Later updates become easier each time.

Editors Note: The 'formatted list' can also be labels (Avery #5380) by setting the field width of each line (Line 185, \$00F2).

PAGE 001 MAILLIST R. LILLY 1-4-79

```

00001          NAM      MAILLIST R. LILLY 1-4-79
00002          OR,LILLY 1-4-79
00003          SHOVE TEXT TO MEMORY,FORMAT,PRINT
00004 0000      OR0      $0000
00005          6FFF      HERE#B EQU $6FFF
00006          7103      WARE#B EQU $7103
00007          CLAC      INEE#B EQU $E1AC
00008          7112      PUTCHR EQU $7112
00009          711E      PCRLF EQU $711E
00010          7127      GETFIL EQU $7127
00011          712D      SETEXT EQU $712D
00012          7740      FCB1 EQU $7740
00013          7806      FMS EQU $7806
00014          7803      FMSCLS EQU $7803
00015          E07E      PDATA1 EQU $E07E
00016 0000 20 05      BRA      TOM
00017 0002 01      VM      FCB1      VERSION NUMBER 1
00018 0003      XSAVE      RMB      2      STORE ADDRESS
00019 0005      LINCNT      RMB      1
00020 0006      COUNT      RMB      1
00021          $
00022          $LINES OF TEXT MUST BE
00023          $FOLLOWED BY C.R.'S AS IN A TEXT
00024          $EDITOR DISC FILE.
00025          $
00026          $TYPE 'MAILLIST,FILENAME'
00027          $FILE PULLED FROM OPPOSITE DRIVE.

```

```

00028          $UNLESS DRIVE IS PECIFIED.
00029          $
00030          $TYPE M C.R. (MAILING LABELS)
00031          $TYPE L C.R. (FORMATTED LIST)
00032          $
00033          $IF A PRIVATE FILE, THE TEXT FOLLOWED
00034          $BY A 'P' WILL NOT BE PRINTED.
00035          $
00036          $TEXT SHOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:
00037          $ NAME      LILLY, RANDY
00038          $ STREET    752 B. CARLOW ST.
00039          $ TOWN      ALLENTOWN, PA.
00040          $ ZIP        18103
00041          $ INFO      TCK 8701-3774 (PRIVATE)
00042          $
00043          $
00044          $END OF FILE SHOULD CONTAIN
00045          $12 BLANK LINES FOLLOWED BY A LINE
00046          $OF "-----" (UP ARROWS)
00047          $
00048          $LABELS ARE 4 LINES DEEP WITH
00049          $2 BLANK LINES.
00050          $
00051          $FORMATTED LIST IS 3 WIDE BY
00052          $10 DEEP AND DOES PAGING.
00053          $
00054          $
00055          $
00056          $
00057          $
00058 0007 CE 0155      TOM      LDX      #BUFSZ
00059 000A 07 03      STX      XSAVE
00060 000C CE 7740      LDX      #FCB1
00061 000F BD 7127      JSR      GETFIL      GET FILE SPEC
00062 0012 25 14      BCS      ERROR
00063 0014 8A 01      LDA      A      #1
00064 0016 CE 7740      LDX      #FCB1
00065 0019 BD 712D      JSR      SETEXT      SET DEFAULT EXT
00066 001C CE 7740      LDX      #FCB1
00067 001F 8A 01      LDA      A      #1
00068 0021 A7 00      STA      A      0-X
00069 0023 BD 7806      JSR      FMS      OPEN FOR READ COMMAND
00070 0026 27 1F      BEQ      NEXTCH
00071          $
00072 0028 CE 011F      ERROR    LDX      #ERROR0
00073 002B BD E07E      JSR      PDATA1
00074 002E 7E 7103      JMP      WARE#B
00075          $
00076 0031 BD E07E      DUTIM     JSR      PDATA1      CRT OUTPUT
00077 0034 7E E1AC      JNE      INEE      CRT INPUT
00078          $
00079 0037 DE 03      OK        LDX      XSAVE
00080 0039 A7 00      STA      A      0-X
00081 003B A1 00      CAP      A      0-X
00082 003D 2A 16      BNE      CLOSE
00083 003F 08      INX
00084 0040 DF 03      STX      XSAVE
00085 0042 BC 6FFF      CPX      #MEMEND
00086 0045 27 0E      BEQ      CLOSE
00087 0047 CE 7740      NEXTCH   LDX      #FCB1
00088 004A BD 7806      JSR      FMS      GET NEXT RECORD
00089 004D 27 0E      BEQ      OK
00090 004F A6 01      LDA      A      1-X
00091 0051 81 08      CMP      A      0
00092 0053 2A 03      BNE      ERROR
00093 0055 BD 7803      CLOSE     JSR      FMSCLS      CLOSE FILE
00094          $
00095 0058 BF A042      MAIL      LDX      #A042
00096 005B CE 012C      LDX      #PRIVATE
00097 005E 80 D1      BBR      TIN
00098 0060 5F      CLR      B
00099 0061 81 59      CMP      A      0-Y
00100 0063 2A 02      BNE      STAB
00101 0065 C6 2A      LDA      B      0-S
00102 0067 D7 02      STAB     STA      B      UM
00103 0069 CE 0144      PROMP    LDX      #LISTIT      LABEL OR LIST?
00104 006C BD C3      BSR      OUTIN
00105 006E 14      TAB
00106 006F 8D C3      BSR      INE
00107 0071 81 0D      CMP      A      #0D
00108 0073 2A F4      BNE      PROMP      NOT CR
00109 0075 17      TBA
00110 0076 81 1B      CMP      A      #1B      ESCAPE
00111 0078 27 8A      BEQ      OUT
00112 007A 81 4C      CMP      A      #1C
00113 007C 27 2B      BEQ      LIST
00114 007E 81 40      CMP      A      #1H
00115 0080 2A D6      BNE      MAIL      IMPROPER ENTRY
00116          $
00117          $
00118          $
00119 0082 CE 0154      LABELS   LDX      #BUFSZ-1
00120 0085 C6 04      MAIL2     LDA      B      #4      PRINT 4 LINES
00121 0087 08      MAIL1     LDX      #X
00122 0089 A6 00      LDA      A      0-X
00123 008A 81 3E      CMP      A      0-Y
00124 008C 27 4F      BEQ      EXIT      END OF PRINTING
00125 008E 81 0D      CMP      A      #0D
00126 0090 27 05      BEQ      NLINE
00127 0092 BD 7112      JSR      PUTCHR
00128 0093 20 F0      BRA      MAIL1
00129          $
00130 0097 BD 711E      NLINE     JSR      PCRLF      C.R.-L.F.
00131 009A 5A      DEC      B
00132 009B 2A EA      DNE      MAIL1
00133 009D C4 02      LDA      B      02
00134 009F 8D 4A      BSR      FALL
00135 00A1 BD 711E      JSR      PCRLF
00136 00A4 BD 711E      JSR      PCRLF
00137 00A7 20 0C      BRA      MAIL2      BLANK LINES
00138          $
00139          $
00140          $
00141          $
00142 00A9 BD 711E      LIST      JSR      PCRLF
00143 00AC CE 0154      LOX      0B      BY-1
00144 00AF C6 05      LDA      B      05
00145 00B1 D7 06      STA      B      COUNT
00146 00B3 20 18      BRA      SETPAS      INIZ LINCNT
00147          $
00148 00B5 C6 05      GROUP     LDA      B      05
00149 00B7 07 04      STA      B      CO NT      5 LINES TO BE PRINTED

```

```

00150 0087 C4 00 LDA B #13 SKIP 13 LINES OF TEXT
00151 0088 BD 2E BSR FALL
00152 008D BD 711E JSR PCRLF SKIP LINE
00153 00C0 7A 0005 BEC LINCNT
00154 00C3 26 0C DNE PRINT3 NOT TIME FOR MARGIN
00155 C5 C6 04 LDA B #6 & MARGIN LINES
00156 00C7 BD 711E NA GIM JBA PCRLF OUTPUT C.R.-L.F.
00157 00CA 5A DEC B
00158 00CB 2A FA DNE MARGIN
00159 00CD C4 0A SETPAB LDA B #10 PRINT 10 DEEP
00160 00CF 07 00 STA B LINCNT INZ LINE COUNT
00161 00D1 BD 1E PRINT3 BSR PRINT PRINT PARTIAL LINE
00162 00D3 DF 03 STX XSAVE
00163 00D5 BD 12 BSR FALL5 SKIP NEXT 5 LINES OF TEXT
00164 00D7 BD 18 BSR PRINT PRINT PARTIAL LINE
00165 00D9 BD 0E BSR FALL5 SKIP NEXT 5 LINES OF TEXT
00166 00DB BD 14 BSR PRINT FINISH PRINTING LINE
00167 00DD BD 711E JSR PCRLF END OF LINE
00168 00E0 DE 03 LDX XSAVE
00169 00E2 7A 0006 DEC COUNT
00170 00E5 27 CE BEG GROUP
00171 00E7 20 EB DRA PRINT3
00173
00174 * FALL THROUGH TEXT
00175 * FALLS
00176 00E9 C4 05 LDA B #5 SKIP 5 LINES OF TEXT
00177 00EB BD 2A FALL BSR FINDER SEARCH FOR C.R.
00178 00ED 5A DEC B
00179 00EE 26 FB DNE FALL
00180 00F0 39 RTS
0181
0182 * PRINT PARTIAL LINE
0183
0184
0185 00F1 C6 1B PRINT LDA B #27 24 CHARACTERS (CRT=HEX 17)
0186 00F3 08 INX
0187 00F4 5A PRINTA DEC B
0188 00F5 27 1F BEG FINDER SEARCH FOR C.R.
0189 00F7 A6 00 LDA A 0,X
0190 00F9 81 5C CMP A 0,X LOOK FOR END
0191 00FB 26 08 DNE CNPR
0192 00FD 86 07 EXIT LDA A #7 BELL
0193 00FF BD 7112 JSR PUTCHR
0194 0102 7E 005B JHP MAIL
0195 0105 91 02 CKPR CMP A 0X LOOK FOR O-P INT CHARACTER
0196 0107 27 04 BEG OUTSPC
0197 0109 81 00 CMP A #40D
0198 010B 26 03 DNE SKSPC
0199 010D 86 20 OUTSPC LDA A #420
0200 010F 09 DEX
0201 0110 08 SKSPC INX
0202 0111 BD 7112 JSR PUTCHR
0203 0114 20 DE DRA PRINTA
0204
0205 * SEARCH FOR NEXT C.R.
0206
0207
0208 0114 09 FINDER DEX
0209 0117 86 0D FINDER LDA A #40D
0210 0119 08 FIND INX
0211 011A A1 00 CMP A 0,X
0212 011C 26 FB DNE FIND
0213 011E 39 RTS
0214
0215 011F 4E ERROR FCC 'NO SUCH FILE'
0216 012B 04 FCC 4
0217 012C 4F PRIVATE FCC 'IS THIS A PRIVATE FILE?'
0218 0143 04 FCC 4
0219 0144 000A LISTII FCC $DOA
0220 0146 4D LISTII FCC 'Mail or List ?'
0221 0154 04 FCC 4
0222 0155 EGU FCC 4
0223 0155 52 FCC 'R. LILLY 1-4-79'
0224 END FCC TOM
TOTAL ERRORB 00000

```

```

SYMBOL JAMLL
BUPSI 0155 CNPR 0105 CLOSE 0055 COUNT 0006 ERROR 0028
ERRORD 011F EXIT 00FD FALL 00EB FALL5 00E9 FCR1 7740
FIND 0119 FINDER 0116 FINDER 0117 FMS 7806 FMSCLS 7803
GETFIL 7127 GROUP 00B5 INE 0034 INEE E1AC LABELS 0082
LINCNT 0005 LIST 00A9 LISTII 0144 MAIL 005B MAIL1 0087
MAIL2 00B5 MARGIN 00C7 MEMEND 6FFF NEXTCH 0047 NLINE 0097
OK 0037 OUT 002E OUTIN 0031 OUTSPC 010D PCRLF 711E
PDATA1 E07E PRINT 00F1 PRINT3 00B1 PRINTA 00F4 PRIVATE 012C
PROMP 00A9 PUTCHR 7112 SETEXT 712D SETPAB 00CD SKSPC 0110
SYMBOL 00A7 TOM 0007 VM 0002 MARKS 7103 XSAVE 0003

```

MODEMS

Reprint from '6800 BITS'
Chicago Area 6800 Newsletter
Phil Schuman, Editor

Several questions have come up since we ran the story about the 'Kansas City Phone Patch'. People wanted to know, why they could not access the CBBS? To answer this, and probably several other questions about modems, let's start at the beginning.

What is a modem? This is a contraction for the name 'modulator/demodulator'. What are these animals? These animals were created to transmit data over common carrier circuits

such as phone lines and microwave. It is easy to transmit data over wires, but what do you do if it is to be sent over radio, such as microwave? The answer is to convert the voltage pulses into pulses of tones, this is what the modem does.

A set of standard tone frequencies and protocol have been established by the Bell System and everyone else (for the most part) remains compatible. In addition to these tones, the connections to the modem are standard also; RS-232. Now the question is how to hook up the terminal you have to the computer at the other end of the world. A modem is placed at each point: a good start. Between the modems we place a microwave link. Now the question, how do we connect to the modems at each end? Well that depends, who is calling who. For the most part, the terminal (and you) will be placing the 'call' to the computer. And thus are referred to as the 'originator'. The computer at the other end will therefore be called the 'answer'.

Next question. How many wires connect to your terminal using the RS-232 protocol? Well, there is; transmit data and it's ground, receive data and it's ground. In this case the grounds are really only one, but logically both are needed. We therefore logically need 4 wires; hence we will need 4 tones. Logical high and logical low for both directions; to and from the terminal. This is called 'full-duplex' because data can travel in both directions at the same time.

As far as the tones are concerned, for the 'originate mode' they are:

Receive:

1270 mark/logic high
1070 space/logic low

Transmit:

2225 mark/logic high
2025 space/logic low

For the modem at the other end operating in 'answer' mode, the tone frequencies are mirror images of the ones above.

In addition, for those using a phone line, the answer modem will send an 'answerback' tone to signal that the connection has been established. This tone is 2025 hz, and will also disable the echo suppressors on the phone circuit. The phone lines only send voices one way at a time...in case you did not know that, and the tone will disable that feature. O.K. what is this animal called? It is the Bell System 103 modem configuration.

This can only transmit data up to about 600 baud, before the bandwidth is not capable of switching at the proper baud rate.

What can be done now, is to drop one set of tones, and use the phone line one-way at a time; half-duplex. This form of transmission can handle up to 1200 baud, but more intelligence is needed to control the modems. The tone frequencies for the Bell System 202 modem configuration are:
1200 and 2200 with 2025 for answerback.

The KCPP uses the SWTPC AC-30 for it's tone generation, and the tones for the AC-30 are:
1200 and 2400

They are only half-duplex and do not fit in with any of the data transmissions standards.

I hope that this has proven informative to those that were wondering about modems and how they work or are used. Most of the systems that 'talk', use the Bell 103 standard at 300 baud or 30 cps.

RS-232 Connectors

For those who would like to change over to the more common RS-232 connectors, here is the pin configuration and their uses. Logic levels (high/low) are represented by either +12v or -12v. Actually the voltages may be in the range of 3 to 25v. Most signals are represented by being ON with a positive (+) voltage and OFF with a minus (-) voltage.

Each pin has a two character EIA code, along with a common mnemonic. Most of the pins will be listed first, and then a condensed version of those that are actually needed. Please keep in mind, that this interface was designed to connect a terminal to a modem.

1. AA FG Chassis Ground
2. BA TD Trans Data from Terminal
3. BB RD Rec Data from Computer
4. CA RTS Request to send
5. CB CTS Clear to Send
6. CC DSR Data Set Ready
7. AB SG Signal Ground
8. CF DCD Data Carrier Detect
- Modem tones receive
9. +12v for testing
10. -12v for testing
15. DB TC Transmit Clock
17. DD RC Receive Clock
20. CD DTR Data Terminal Ready
- Terminal is 'on-line'
22. CE RI Ring Indicate

Phone is ringing

24. DA ETC External Trans Clock

25 CN

Busy

Phone is dialing out

Here are the pins that are needed for most terminal configurations.

2. Trans data to Modem/CPU
3. Receive data from CPU
7. Ground

In addition the following pins may have to be jumpered, to force the terminal into a 'Ready'; 5, 6, 8, 20. Clocking may be tied to the following:

17. Clock from CPU into terminal
24. Clock from terminal into CPU

NEW PRODUCTS

TSC BASIC for the 6800

Technical Systems Consultants, Inc. is pleased to announce the availability of the TSC BASIC for the 6800. The program resides in 9.5K of memory and is currently the fastest floating point BASIC interpreter available for any 8 bit micro. Typical speed increases of 2 to 10 times have been observed in comparison to other popular BASIC's, with some cases up to 75 times! All of the standard BASIC statements and functions are supported as well as many extended capabilities. Both floating point and string variables are provided with strings being fully dynamic and unrestricted in size. Variable names may be either the standard types or double letter combinations allowing limited variable name mnemonics.

Other features include single and double dimensioned arrays. Array references support subscripts of 0 unlike several other 6800 BASIC's available. Array size, loop nesting, subroutine nesting and string length are only limited by the amount of user memory available in the machine. A tremendous enhancement is provided by the 'IF..THEN..ELSE' construct. The 'ELSE' clause promotes a more structured type programming style, thus improving readability and conciseness of the program. The input buffer allows lines as long as 127 characters to be entered to take advantage of the complex statement structures permitted with this statement. Other features include the HEX function which allows hexadecimal number representation while PI provides an easy reference to this often used constant. The floating point arithmetic done by BASIC is performed to seven digits accuracy internally, with all answers printed to six. The dynamic range of the numbers is in the range of 10 raised to the plus or minus 37th power.

Overall, TSC BASIC is a very fast and powerful BASIC. It is easily adapted to run in any 6800 system having at least 12K of user RAM available from location 0000. A system with 16K or more of memory is recommended for serious applications. The BASIC is available on Kansas City Standard cassette along with a complete user's manual for \$39.95. No source listing is available. A full disk file version of TSC BASIC which will run under the FLEX disk operating system will be available shortly. The product is available from stock and may be ordered from Technical Systems Consultants, Inc., Box 2574, West Lafayette, Indiana, 47906, or call (317) 463-2502.

I. General

Memory required: 9.5K, 16K recommended
Arithmetic precision: 6 digits, 7 internally
Dynamic range: approx. 10E+37 to 10E-38
String storage: Fully dynamic, no limit to size
Array storage: 1 and 2 dimensional, no size limit
Nesting: No limit to DOSUB & FOR nests
Multiple statements per line: With ':' or '\'
Input line buffer: 127 characters
Variable types: floating point and String
Variable names: Single letter, 2 letters, or letter-number

II. Commands

CLEAR	MONIT	EXIT	LIST
LOAD	NEW	RUN	SAVE

III. Statements

DATA	DEF	DIM	END	FOR	DOSUB
GOTO	IF..THEN	IF..GOTO	IF..ELSE	INPUT LINE	INPUT
LET	NEXT	ON..DOSUB	ON..GOTO	POKE	PRINT
READ	REMARK	RESTORE	RETURN	STEP	STOP

IV. Arithmetic Functions

ABS	ATN	COS	EXP	FRE	INT
LOG	PEEK	POS	RND	SGN	SIN
SPC	SQR	TAB	TAN	USR	PI

V. String Functions

ASC	CHR\$	HEX	LEFT\$	LEN	MID\$
RIGHT\$	STR\$	VAL			

SEMICONDUCTOR Memory Primer

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As one might guess from the preceeding paragraph PC board layout is extremely critical. Indeed, a wirewrap prototype is almost useless because of transients. Another critical area is power supply bypassing. The dynamic RAMS draw almost no quiescent (DC) current. Power is consumed at and shortly after the transistions of the three clocks RAS, CAS, and WRITE. The transient currents on the 3 power supply lines and ground may exceed 100 mA on each chip for 50 to 100 ns duration. These current demands must be met by the local bypassing capacitors in order to reduce $L \frac{di}{dt}$ voltage drop (noise) on the relatively long supply traces and their associated parasitic inductance.

The 4116 memory requires that each of the 128 internal rows (represented by the seven address bits at RAS) be refreshed at least every 2 ms. However, since the chips consume power only when cycling it is desirable to keep refreshes to a minimum to conserve power.

Since the 6800 does not access memory during ϕ_1 it is very natural to perform refreshes at that time. Using this technique the refresh is said to be transparent as it does not affect processor speed by delaying accesses. The refresh is also synchronous because it is synchronized to the processor.

Referring again to the schematic of Figure 8, the oscillator composed of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , Q_1 , C_1 , and U7E clocks the counter U10 at about 1 MHz. This causes the carry out to go high after 15 cycles (assuming 0 initially) or about 15 microseconds. 128

refresh cycles will occur in just under 2 ms worst case, meeting the refresh requirements while keeping the refreshes to a minimum.

Refresh pending is sampled on every $\overline{\phi_2}$ (ϕ_1) by U6A in order to guarantee set up and hold times on the REFRESH flip flop U6B (thereby avoiding glitches) which is clocked by ϕ_1 ($\overline{\phi_2}$). As soon as REFRESH goes true the refresh time counter is cleared to begin timing the next 15 microsecond cycle. Concurrently, a pulse is started down the delay line by U6B via U8B and U9A,B. Also, the REF ENABLE line is asserted on the 3242 (U3) causing the current contents of the refresh address register (7 bits) to be multiplexed onto it's A_{6-0} outputs which are applied directly to the RAMs.

When the pulse gets to the 40 ns tap of the delay line U8C will cause RAS to be asserted on every RAM chip. In this manner every chip is refreshed simultaneously at a given row address.

As the pulse reaches the 200 ns tap the REFRESH flip flop is reset via U7G. This action de-asserts RAS and also increments the refresh address internal to the 3242 via the COUNT line. Simultaneously, a rising edge is injected into the delay line to return it to its idle state which completes the refresh cycle.

There are many seemingly minor details that if heeded will produce a good, reliable dynamic memory system. Ignoring the details will generate more headaches than the designer bargained for.

The first, and perhaps most important, consideration is power distribution which was briefly touched upon earlier. The V_{DD}

(+12) supply sources most of the current required by the 4116. Recalling the need for distributed low inductance capacitance, the most logical procedure is to opt for a multi-layer circuit board. The center two layers would be V_{DD} and V_{SS} (ground). This provides both a good ground plane and a good low resistance path for the V_{DD} supply. The two parallel layers also provide a surprising amount of distributed capacitance. Every 4116 should also have its own high quality low ESR, low inductance capacitor (such as ceramic) in the .01 μF to .1 μF range. These should be located as close as physically possible to the RAM chip to reduce the parasitic inductance.

The other two supplies V_{CC} (+5) and V_{BB} (-5) should be run in a matrix fashion on the outer board layers using the widest possible runs. Each chip should have its own bypass capacitor on each of these supplies also, again as close as possible to the chip. Additionally, all of the supplies should have several bulk bypass capacitors of 5 to 10 μF distributed about the board. Again the order of importance of the supplies is $V_{DD} > V_{BB} > V_{CC}$ and the bulk capacitance should vary accordingly.

The next area of concern is the logic inputs to each memory chip (RAS, CAS, WRITE, A_{6-0} , D_{in}). These signals must be kept from ringing as much as possible. Overshoot can cause all kinds of problems ranging from data loss to chip destruction. The way to keep ringing to a minimum is to keep parasitic inductance low by keeping runs as short and direct as possible. Furthermore, adding series damping resistors close to the drivers in the 10 ohm to 60 ohm range will help. The best value is determined by experimentation.

The clock signals (RAS, CAS, and WRITE) must be generated glitch-free and the asynchronous inputs (A_{6-0} , D_{in}) must not be allowed to change within the set up and hold times specified. To minimize cross talk between RAS and CAS they should be run at right angles to one another, i.e. one on the front layer, one on the back.

An error which is commonly found in memory systems is that the designer used the system reset signal from the bus to reset the synchronous elements (flip flops, counters, etc.) in the controller circuit. While this appears to be the logical thing to do it allows a front panel reset, which is asynchronous with respect to the controller, to abort an access or refresh cycle which will almost always cause data loss. Once a cycle is begun it must be taken to completion.

This requirement constrains the designer to either use an on-board power-on-reset or to design the sequential logic so that it is self starting from power up. Furthermore, the bus signals which initiate a cycle must be latched so that their premature removal will not abnormally terminate the cycle.

The bias supply V_{BB} is used to bias the substrate of the RAM chips. This voltage increases the breakdown potential of the MOS transistors and has other benefits as well. Since at power up the V_{DD} and V_{CC} supplies may overshoot steps must be taken to limit overshoot (i.e. clamping) and the supplies should be sequenced on and off such that V_{BB} is applied first and removed last with respect to V_{DD} and V_{CC} .

Many memory systems include circuitry for data error detection using parity. To implement this an extra RAM chip is added to

each row to retain the parity bits. As each word is written to, the parity of the data is generated and the result written to a corresponding address in the parity RAM. On a read the parity of the read data is again generated and compared to the contents of the parity RAM at that location. If they don't match an interrupt is generated to the CPU. It is also possible to implement error correction in a memory system such that errors of a certain type are automatically corrected on the fly.

In summary, we have seen that there are several features which characterize any type of storage medium. Furthermore, we have through a typical design example seen how to implement a memory system using the most misunderstood and most feared memory element, the dynamic RAM.

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THE TERMINAL-



Until recently all terminal functions were designed with hardware logic. A relatively simple terminal with limited functions could easily require as many as sixty or more integrated circuits. More sophisticated terminals with a moderate amount of intelligence could easily have over a hundred IC's. All this has now changed. With the introduction of MOS video controller circuits it has become possible to design a terminal using a controller and a microprocessor that will perform almost any imaginable function with software. The CT-82 has one hundred twenty-eight separate functions--all of which are software driven. It contains fewer parts than most "dumb" terminals.

The normal screen format is 16 lines (20 lines selectable) with 82 characters per line. This is an upper-lower case display with a 7 x 12 dot matrix. The high resolution characters are displayed on a Motorola Data Products M-2000 series monitor with a green P-31 phosphor. This monitor has a 12 MHz video bandwidth and dynamic focus circuits to insure a crisp well focused display over the entire face of the tube. An alternate all capital letter format is available (optional) with 16, 20 or 22 lines and 92 characters per line. The lower case portion of this character set has graphic symbols. In this mode the lines may be moved together to give a solid figure or line. Direct cursor addressing combined with the plotting capability makes it possible to indicate the end points of a line and then to automatically draw a line between them.

Both the monitor and the character generator have sockets provided for alternate material in the form of an EPROM. This

makes it possible to have special terminal functions, or character sets that can be switched in under computer control.

The CT-82 has its own internal editing functions. This allows inserting and deleting lines and characters, erasing quadrants, or lines; doing rolls, scrolls, slides and other similar functions. The CT-82 can block transmit completed material to the computer, or output material to its own remote printer through the built-in parallel printer I/O port. The terminal can be programmed to operate at any system baud rate that is normally used from 50 to 38,400. The baud rate may be changed at any time within this range with a software command.

The cursor position, type of cursor, cursor ON-OFF and blinking are all provided. A command is provided to print control characters and also to turn on and off a tape punch, or tape reader. Protected fields, shift inversion, dual intensity and many other miscellaneous features make the CT-82 one of the most flexible terminals available.

A fifty-six key alphanumeric keyboard plus a twelve key cursor pad is standard. A numeric pad may be substituted for the cursor pad (optional). Connection to the terminal is through a standard DB-25 connector and RS-232 signal levels. The CT-82 operates from 100, 115, 220, or 240 VAC at 50 to 60 Hz. It weighs 20 lbs, and is a compact 18" wide, 10" high and 18" deep.

CT-82 Intelligent Terminal
assembled and tested . . . \$795.00 F.O.B. San Antonio



SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS CORPORATION
219 W. Rhapsody
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(512) 344-0241

THE EDITOR-

The only microprocessor editor with all the features and ease of use normally found only on large machines. "THE EDITOR" lets you fully use the CT-82's capabilities.

LINE POINTER —Now you understand why the CT-82 has 82 columns. The left two columns are used for a line pointer, which indicates the line of text being edited.

FILE WRAPAROUND—"THE EDITOR" may make multiple passes over the file being edited without restarting the editor.

AUTOMATIC CARRIAGE RETURN—The last word in a line will automatically be started on the next line if it will not fit in the space remaining on the line.

SIMPLE COMMANDS—Commands consists of a single letter, or a key press on the cursor pad. No complicated format to be learned and remembered.

MULTIPLE COMMANDS and REPEATS—Command line may have more than one command. "THE EDITOR" will execute command strings sequentially. Repeat function allows changes in a string through the text file.

SOURCE TEXT TABS—Tab stops appropriate for source text input may be set to operate from the space bar, or any other key.

SHIFT INVERSION—The keyboard may be set to produce either capital, or lower case letters when shift is used.

SCREEN POSITIONING—Scroll up, scroll down, line pointer up, line pointer down, home file, top of memory, bottom of memory, move relative to pointed line and form feed are provided.

"THE EDITOR" is available only for Southwest Technical Products computer systems using the CT-82 and running under FLEX-5®, or FLEX-8® operating systems. It may be used to edit any files, or programs compatible with the DOS, except binary files. Edited files are compatible with the TSC Text Processing program. The combination makes a powerful and inexpensive word processing system.

Editor FLEX-5® or FLEX-8® \$25.00 ppd. in Continental USA

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219 W. Rhapsody
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(512) 344-0241

LOCATE

A Utility Command Program for FLEXTM

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Users of the SWTPC 6800 disk operating system, "Flex", written by Technical Systems Consultants (TSC) of W. Lafayette, Ind., are accustomed to the versatility and convenience of this fine software. It makes the use of the computer much more satisfying than operation with tape. The Flex system incorporates on its master disk a large number of "utility command" routines for management of the disk files which the user may have stored on his disks. Among these subroutines is the disk command, SAVE, which permits the user to transfer to disk from memory any binary program which he may have developed in RAM. Such a program is readily and quickly moved from disk back into RAM by entering its file name on the user's terminal. However, the Flex system provides no way to find either the locations in RAM at which the previously stored program begins and ends or its starting address for execution. After recording many programs the user has very likely forgotten what memory locations he used. An ability to find this information from the disk file itself is often very convenient.

LOCATE is such a program. Stored on the master disk with other command routines, it can be called at any time to display on the terminal the address in RAM at which the first and the last bytes of a program will be located and the address at which execution will begin. For example, if one wants to know the RAM addresses associated with a binary file named "Test" located somewhere on disk number one he simply types "LOCATE,1.TEST" and obtains the following output on his terminal:

```
LOCATE,1.TEST
```

```
PGM. STORAGE BEGINS AT 0100  
PGM. STORAGE ENDS AT 1234  
STARTING ADDRESS = 0200
```

The default file extension assumed in LOCATE is .BIN. Other types of binary files, such as command and system files, can be located by adding the appropriate extension after the file name in the call for the LOCATE program. BASIC and ASCII text files can not be located because they do not include memory address data.

Table 1 is a listing of the program, as obtained from the TSC assembler. Extensive use is made of the "Get" and the binary "File Loader" routines already contained in the Flex file management system, each having been modified to count successive bytes in the stored program

rather than to transfer bytes to RAM. The "Locate.Cmd" program operates from a block of memory beginning at \$7600 within the Flex master program, where most of the already supplied command routines also operate when they are called.

To understand the program itself one needs to know the format of binary files on disk. This is explained in the "Advanced Programmer's Guide", written by TSC and available from SWTPC. A binary record begins with a first byte containing a start-of-record indicator, 02. This is followed by the most and the least significant bytes of the load address in RAM at which the program will start. The next byte gives the number of data bytes which will follow in the record, after which the program data bytes themselves occur. On the last record occupied by the program the first byte is \$16, indicating that what follows is the transfer address at which program execution will begin. The ending address to be used in RAM is not recorded in the disk file but is computed by IOLOCATE as it reads through the file, incrementally adding the total number of bytes in the program to the initial memory address.

Bytes are read from the disk by the file-management subroutine here called "FMS1". It returns in the A-register one byte of the file and an error signal, if one occurs. One such signal is an end-of-file marker byte, 08, which signals the subroutine that all information recorded in the file has been read. When this occurs, FMS1 returns control to the main program which begins at START, not to the LOADER subroutine. This is done by using two PUL A instructions simply to change the stack pointer so that a RTS instruction will return control to the previous program's subroutine jump, not to the subroutine which just previously caused entry into FMS1. This accounts for the absence of a RTS instruction at the end of LOADER.

The reader can easily assemble the "Locate" program using the listing given in the table. If he asks for a binary object file to be put on disk drive number one, for example, he may next use Flex to change the name of the new "locate" binary object file to 1.IOLOCATE.CMD. Then he can copy this file from drive number one to number zero if drive zero contains his collection of Flex user command programs. Now he should find it easy to obtain memory location information directly from the disk on which his programs are stored.

SYMBOL TABLE

ERROR	71BD	FLAG	7603	FMS1	7525	INIT	7609	INIT1	7606
JUMP	761F	LDR1	7625	LDR2	765D	LDR3	7689	LDR4	767E
LDR5	7672	LOADER	7622	MSG1	7698	MSG2	76AF	MSG3	76C6
OPEN	758A	OUT4HS	E0C8	PCRLF	711E	PSTRIN	7118	RETURN	7617
SCRATC	70B3	START	7600	TADDR	709F	VN	7602	WARMS	7103
XSAVE	7604								


```

*****
* LOCATE, a utility command program *
* for FLEX to find the beginning *
* and ending addresses in memory, *
* plus the program starting addr., *
* of a binary file on disk. *
* The program is based on "GET" *
* and "FILE LOADER" routines in *
* FLEX, modified. *
* Dec. 8, 1978, by R.L.Pigford *
*****

```

		NAM	LOCATE	
* System equates				
7118		PSTRING	EQU	\$7118 cr/lf + print string
711E		PCRLF	EQU	\$711E
EOC8		OUT4HS	EQU	\$EOC8
758A		OPEN	EQU	\$758A
70B3		SCRATCH	EQU	\$70B3
7103		WARMS	EQU	\$7103 return to FLEX
7525		FMS1	EQU	\$7525
709F		TADDR	EQU	\$709F transfer address in FLEX
71BD		ERROR	EQU	\$71BD
*				
7600		ORG		\$7600
7600	20 04	START	BRA	INIT1
7602	01	VN	FCB	1 version 1 of program
7603		FLAG	RMB	1
7604		XSAVE	RMB	2
7606	BD 711E	INIT1	JSR	PCRLF start with cr/lf
7609	86 00	INIT	LDA A	#0
760B	BD 758A		JSR	OPEN get file spec.; open for read
760E	25 07		BCS	RETURN return to FLEX if through
7610	&C 70B3		INC	SCRATCH
7613	8D 0D		BSR	LOADER go to subroutine to read data
7615	20 F2		BRA	INIT
7617	F6 70B3	RETURN	LDA B	SCRATCH
761A	27 03		BEQ	JUMP
761C	7E 7103		JMP	WARMS return to FLEX
761F	7E 71BD	JUMP	JMP	ERROR
*				
* Abbreviated binary loader routine to count memory				
*				
7622	7F 7603	LOADER	CLR	FLAG set flag to permit output of
7625	BD 7525	LDR1	JSR	FMS1 start addr.; get first byte
7628	81 02		CMP A	#2 is it start-of-record indicator?
7629	27 31		BEQ	LDR2 branch if yes
762C	81 16		CMP A	#\$16 is it transfer-addr. indicator?
762E	26 F5		BNE	LDR1 if no, return for another byte
7630	CE 76AF		LDX	#MSG2 point to end-mem. message
7633	BD 7118		JSR	PSTRING print end addr. message
7636	FE 7604		LDX	XSAVE get end mem. addr.+1
7639	09		DEX	correct it
763A	FF 7604		STX	XSAVE save it
763D	CE 7604		IDX	#XSAVE point to end mem. addr.
7640	BD EOC8		JSR	OUT4HS print it

```

7643 BD 7525 JSR FMS1 get transfer addr., msb
7646 B7 709F STA A TADDR
7649 BD 7525 JSR FMS1 get transfer addr., lsb
764C B7 70A0 STA A TADDR+1
764F CE 76C6 LDX #MSG3 point to starting addr. msg.
7652 BD 7118 JSR PSTRING print it
7655 CE 709F LDX #TADDR
7658 BD E0C8 JSR OUT4HS print starting address
765B 20 C8 BRA LDR1
765D BD 7525 LDR2 JSR FMS1 get begin addr., msb
7660 36 PSH A
7661 BD 7525 JSR FMS1 get begin addr., lsb
7664 33 PUL B
7665 B7 7605 STA A XSAVE+1 store lsb
7668 F7 7604 STA B XSAVE store msb
766B 7D 7603 TST FLAG test for first time through
766E 27 02 BEQ LDR5 branch if yes for print
7670 20 0C BRA LDR4 skip print
7672 CE 7698 LDR5 LDX #MSG1 point to begin addr. msg.
7675 BD 7118 JSR PSTRING
7678 CE 7604 LDX #XSAVE point to begin addr.
767B BD E0C8 JSR OUT4HS print addr.
767E 86 01 LDR4 LDA A #1 set flag to suppress begin-
7680 B7 7603 STA A FLAG addr. print
7683 BD 7525 JSR FMS1 get no. data bytes in sector
7686 16 TAB store it in B-reg.
7687 27 9C BEQ LDR1
7689 BD 7525 LDR3 JSR FMS1 get a data byte
768C FE 7604 LDX XSAVE get byte counter
768F 08 INX increment it
7690 FF 7604 STX XSAVE save new value
7693 5A DEC B reduce word count
7696 26 F3 BNE LDR3 return for next word
7696 20 8D BRA LDR1 return for next sector

*
* output strings
*
7698 50 MSG1 FCC /PGM. STORAGE BEGINS AT /
76A2 04 FCB 4
76AF 50 MSG2 FCC /PGM. STORAGE ENDS AT /
76C5 04 FCB 4
76C6 53 MSG3 FCC /STARTING ADDRESS = /
76DC 04 FCB 4

*
END START

```

NO ERROR(S) DETECTED

A 20 MA PRINTER WITH SWTPC

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Here is a convenient way to interface a 20 mA. printer, such as the Model 33, to a SWTPC computer. It is assumed that the system uses the MP-C control board to interface an RS-232 video terminal.

The jumper installed between holes TI and TC on the MP-C board is

removed, and the printer is connected to holes TI (keyboard), TO (print mechanism), and TC (common). (If the printer has no keyboard, leave the jumper installed.) The printer may be used simultaneously with the video terminal, and placed in local mode when hard copy is not desired.

It is often useful to be able to disable output to the printer during the course of a program, for instance when prompts are needed. The accompanying program NOPRNT allows two ways of accomplishing this. Three subroutines are provided that are identical to INEEE, OUTEEE and PDATA1, except that characters will appear only on the CRT.

Alternatively, the PTRON and PTROFF subroutines may be used alone to enable and disable the printer, respectively. Note that the printer's keyboard is not disabled by PTROFF, and will be operative whenever the printer is on-line.

For these routines to operate, a simple hardware modification is required to the MP-C board. This modification is detailed in the listing. It is simple to make, and in no way affects normal system operation.

These routines may be assembled to reside anywhere desired, whether in ROM or as part of a user program.

```

00010          NAM    NOPRNT

00040          * PRINTER IS CONNECTED TO 20 MA. SERIAL OUTPUT
00050          * OF MP-C CONTROL INTERFACE, (PINS TO AND TC).
00060          * MP-C BOARD MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS:
00070          * (1) LIFT PIN 1 OF IC-6, AND JUMPER TO PIN
00080          *      13 (PB3) OF THE PIA, IC-1. INSTALL
00090          *      10K PULLUP BETWEEN THIS POINT AND +5V.
00100          * (2) MOVE END OF R4 FROM IC-5, PIN 11, TO
00110          *      IC-6, PIN 2.
00120          * SINCE PB3 IS NORMALLY PROGRAMMED AS AN INPUT,
00130          * IT IS IN TRI-STATE, AND THE PULL-UP ON PIN 1
00140          * OF IC-6 ENABLES THAT GATE TO ALLOW NORMAL
00150          * PRINTER OPERATION. WHEN NINCH, NOUTCH OR
00160          * NOUTST IS CALLED, THE PTROFF ROUTINE TAKES
00170          * PB3 LOW, DISABLING PRINTER OUTPUT.

00190          OPT    0

00210          * EXTERNAL EQUATES

00230          E1AC    INEEE EQU    $E1AC    CHARACTER INPUT
00240          E1D1    OUTEEE EQU    $E1D1    CHARACTER OUTPUT

```

```

00250      E07E      PDATA1 EQU      $E07E      CHAR. STRING OUTPUT
00260      8006      PIADB  EQU      $8006      MP-C PIA, SIDE B
00270      A04A      XTEMP  EQU      $A04A      TEMP. STORAGE FOR X

00290 0000                      ORG      0

00310                      ***
00320                      * NON-PRINTING SUBSTITUTE FOR INEEE
00330                      * JSR OR BSR HERE TO INPUT A CHAR.
00340                      ***
00350 0000 8D 21      NINCH  BSR      PTROFF    DISABLE PRINTER
00360 0002 BD E1AC          JSR      INEEE      CHARACTER INPUT
00370 0005 20 0C          BRA      PTRON      ENABLE PRINTER & RTN
00390                      ***
00400                      * NON-PRINTING SUBSTITUTE FOR OUTEEE
00410                      * JSR OR BSR HERE TO OUTPUT A CHAR.
00420                      ***
00430 0007 8D 1A      NOUTCH BSR      PTROFF    DISABLE PRINTER
00440 0009 BD E1D1          JSR      OUTEEE     CHARACTER OUTPUT
00450 000C 20 05          BRA      PTRON      ENABLE PRINTER & RETURN
00460                      ***
00470                      * NON-PRINTING SUBSTITUTE FOR PDATA1
00480                      * JSR OR BSR HERE TO OUTPUT A STRING
00490                      ***
00500 000E 8D 13      NOUTST BSR      PTROFF    DISABLE PRINTER
00510 0010 BD E07E          JSR      PDATA1     OUTPUT STRING
00520                      ***
00530                      * JSR OR BSR HERE TO RE-ENABLE PRINTER
00540                      ***
00550 0013 FF A04A      PTRON  STX      XTEMP      SAVE X
00560 0016 7F 8007          CLR      PIADB+1    TO ADDRESS DDRB
00570 0019 CE 0734          LDX      #$734
00580 001C FF 8006          STX      PIADB      PB3 = INPUT (TRI-ST.) AGAIN
00590 001F FE A04A          LDX      XTEMP      RESTORE X
00600 0022 39                      RTS          RETURN TO CALLING PROGRAM
00610                      ***
00620                      * JSR OR BSR HERE TO DISABLE PRINTER
00630                      ***
00640 0023 FF A04A      PTROFF STX      XTEMP      SAVE X
00650 0026 36          PSH A          SAVE CHAR. TO BE OUTPUT
00660 0027 7F 8007          CLR      PIADB+1    TO ADDRESS DDRB
00670 002A CE 0F34          LDX      #$F34
00680 002D FF 8006          STX      PIADB      MAKE PB3 AN OUTPUT
00690 0030 FE A04A          LDX      XTEMP      RESTORE X
00700 0033 86 F7          LDA A      #$F7
00710 0035 B4 8006          AND A      PIADB
00720 0038 B7 8006          STA A      PIADB      FORCE PB3 LOW
00730 003B 32          PUL A          RETRIEVE CHAR.
00740 003C 39                      RTS

00760                      END

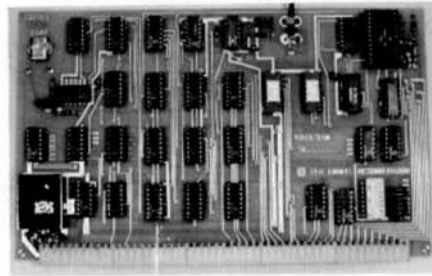
```

TOTAL ERRORS 00000

ENTER PASS : 1P,2P,2L,2T

A VIDEO BOARD & IMPROVED MONITOR for the S-50 BUS

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Among the video boards for the S-50 buss, the Thomas Instrumentation unit* Figure 1, offers an economical terminal capability for the experimenter. This board can be implemented for less than \$100 and has excellent capabilities. For those unfamiliar with this video board, it provides a switch selectable 1K RAM memory which can be addressed by the CPU and is also used to refresh the video screen simultaneously. The screen format is 16 lines of 64 characters. The 1K RAM may be placed anywhere in memory with the on-board DIP switch. Interesting views of the memory contents during symbol table sorts and calculations can be obtained by using the 1K video memory to overlay program RAM location where the action is occurring.

While the Thomas Instrumentation video display is not "glitch-less" when the memory is addressed, the minor "noise" on the screen when the display is changed is not objectionable. The video display operates at an equivalent baud rate of about 17K baud while scrolling. Obviously, single page write times are much faster, since the entire page must be rewritten in memory for each added line while scrolling. Single page write rates are approximately 50,000 characters/sec or 20 MS per page, so updating the video display is rapid!

For monitor use, the Video RAM can be placed at any convenient spot. C000-C3FF HEX was selected, though 8000-9000 HEX could have been used also, if complete addressing of the I/O were implemented. Suitable output routines are provided by Thomas Instrumentation, but for complete cursor control (cursor right and cursor up) minor additions to these routines are required. These output routines require only about 200 bytes of memory, so they can be easily placed in EPROM Memory on the SWTPC MPA2 board. It is also necessary to use 6 bytes of A000 RAM memory to store the video pointer, 2 flags and the blink time count for terminal - type operation of the video RAM board. For convenience, the OUTEEE routine at E1D1 should be modified to include these output routines, and a keyboard, to substitute for the terminal, should also be incorporated for the INEEE (E1AC) routine. Thus several revisions of the SWTBUG minitor listings are necessary.

This article also concerns the development of a SWTBUG compatible monitor (with expanded functions) which also contains the routines to drive the Thomas Instrumentation Video RAM board. The entry points for all MIKBUG/SWTBUG subroutines have been maintained and many of the commands have the same letter, though the input of the address data is slightly modified. The features desired in this monitor were:

- a. compatibility with SWTBUG
- b. Improved input and output switching by software control
- c. Additional commands in the monitor for often-needed functions.
- d. Video routines and independent keyboard routines to use the system without an external terminal.
- e. Complete functioning of the monitor, without the video board or keyboard I/D card, if an external

monitor is used.

- f. Operation of the monitor, from the independent keyboard, even though output or input was expected at a port where no card was present.

All of these objectives have been met, and the monitor commands, with a brief functional description, are given in TABLE I. Flow charts for the input and output routines are given in Figures 2 and 3. The character input routine was written with a separate BREAK subroutine which polls for input and returns with the carry set if any input is ready at the port or keyboard. This can be substituted for similar routines in various games and basic versions which often require modification when the I/O is changed. As can be seen, the I/O routines are rather complex because (a) there are added features; (b) they run two I/O "ports" simultaneously, independently; and (c) they automatically switch from AC1A to PlA as the port address is changed. Some of these added monitor functions are available with programs which operate through FLEX, but for other programs and tape systems, these added functions are invaluable.

As an example, a printer can be put at any port and the output vectored to that port, in addition to appearing on the video board monitor. The printer can be turned on and off by the "Q" command. The output can also be temporarily interrupted by a control S command. This also allows printing of basic program output at a selected printer port, even though the basic program was not written to output through that port.

The monitor operates both serial and parallel I/O, depending on port selection. The 4 ports from \$8000 through \$800C are assumed to be AC1A ports - no parallel card is allowed at port #1.

All ports above 800C are assumed to be PLA ports by the monitor. The B side of Port #7 was selected for the keyboard input since Port #7 is normally used for parallel output through the A side. Thus with this keyboard at port #7, and the video board, the entire 6800 system can be operated without an external terminal.

Operation without a keyboard and without the video board, requires an external terminal at port #1. When operated in this configuration, the monitor supports all commands except the display of control characters. All video and keyboard functions are ignored. If both a terminal at Port #1 and the video board/keyboard are used, the same display and control functions are maintained on both terminals independently. If the AC-30 is connected at Port #1, with or without a terminal, the operation is compatible with that of other monitors. The AC-30 can also be placed at any AC1A Port if that port is selected with the monitor "O" command.

Complete HEX format and binary type routines have been included in the monitor. This allows loading and generation of both type tapes with a suitable tape interface.

Other monitor routines are included in the monitor to ease software development and patching. Among these are the 2 byte address search, breakpoint insertion, and block memory move commands. The "I" command is the "Thompson Lister" program Ref. to display instructions as 1, 2 or 3 bytes, as appropriate. This display is most useful in checking to see if a program is correctly entered or that a change is made properly. Disk operations are supported with the jump to FLEX at \$7103 and disk boot routine. For FLEX 2.0, residing at A000, this jump address is easily modified.

Terminal-less operation has one drawback; remote terminal operation with a modem is often desired and a terminal can be used with both

modem and CPU. One approach to providing an equivalent "terminal" for use with a modem using the video board is a short monitor routine which converts the CPU/video board/key board system into a "dumb" terminal, (the "X" command). The serial output port and serial input data is displayed on the video board monitor, just as though it were a terminal.

The cursor display is caused to blink by software timing loop, but this loop is only active while the CPU is polling for input at ElAC, hence there is no constant CPU overhead to blink the cursor. The cursor is normally on and not blinking while the CPU is performing tasks not involving ElAC input. This implementation of a blinking cursor provides a reasonable compromise between visibility and CPU usage.

One word of caution is appropriate. The A0000 RAM usage to support this monitor includes dedication of locations \$A014 through \$A019 for monitor use. These added bytes are used with the video and I/O routines and are essential. Any attempt to use these bytes in memory diagnostics or for other purposes will fail. All other usage of the \$A0000 RAM is identical to that of SWTBUG.

This entire monitor requires about 1600 (decimal) bytes and is easily programmed in a single 2716 EPROM (with 430 bytes free for other routines) which can be used on the MPA2 CPU board to replace SWTBUG. The complete commented source listings for this monitor are 16 pages and too lengthy to include in an article of this type, but are available from the author.*

In summary an approach to a compact, economical, single unit 6800 system is described. A lower cost system results, the display speed is increased and less disk top space is required. Improved monitor functions are also provided for both program development and system expansion.

* Comment Source Listing of JOEBUG Monitor \$5.00; Copy of Object Code on supplied tape or disk or EPROM \$5.00.

		*START INPUT ROUTINE		
E1A5	8D 07	INLOOP	BSR	BREAK
E1A7	25 68		RCS	INCHA
E1A9	BD E2 3D		JSR	BLINK
E1AC	20 F7	INEEE	BRA	INLOOP
		*BREAK TEST ROUTINE		
E1AE	8D 55	BREAK	BSR	SAVGET
E1B0	2C 7C		RGE	PIACK
E1B2	A6 00	ACIACK	LDA A	0,X
E1B4	4C		INC A	
E1B5	27 0A		BEQ	KEYCK
E1B7	4A		DEC A	
E1B8	47		ASR A	
E1B9	24 06		BCC	KEYCK
E1BB	4F	RTN3	CLR A	
E1BC	0D		SEC	
E1BD	FE A0 10		LDX	XTEMP
E1C0	39		RTS	
		*KEYBOARD CHECK ROUTINE		
E1C1	B6 80 1F	KEYCK	LDA A	\$801F
E1C4	4C		INC A	
E1C5	27 02		BEQ	RTN2
E1C7	2B 03		BMI	SETFLG
E1C9	0C	RTN2	CLC	
E1CA	20 F1		BRA	RTN3+2
E1CC	8D ED	SETFLG	BSR	RTN3
E1CE	8A 80		ORA A	#\$80
E1D0	39		RTS	
		*OUTPUT ROUTINE, A REGISTER TO PORT & SCREEN		
E1D1	36	OUTEEE	PSH A	
E1D2	8D DA		BSR	BREAK
E1D4	24 08		BCC	CNTX
E1D6	8D 39		BSR	INCHA
E1D8	81 13		CMP A	#\$13
E1DA	26 02		BNE	CNTX
E1DC	8D CE		BSR	INEEE
E1DE	32	CNTX	PUL A	
E1DF	36		PSH A	
E1E0	8D 74		BSR	VIDEO
E1E2	7D A0 17	OUTSW	TST	PROUT
E1E5	26 11		RNE	RTN5
E1E7	8D 1C		BSR	SAVGET
E1E9	32		PUL A	
E1EA	37		PSH B	
E1EB	2C 0D		RGE	PIAOUT
E1ED	E6 00	ACIAOU	LDA B	0,X
E1EF	57		ASR B	
E1F0	57		ASR B	
E1F1	24 FA		BCC	ACIAOU
E1F3	A7 01		STA A	01,X
E1F5	33	RTN4	PUL B	
E1F6	20 C5		BRA	RTN3+2
E1F8	32	RTN5	PUL A	
E1F9	39		RTS	
E1FA	E6 03	PIAOUT	LDA B	03,X
E1FC	5C		INC B	
E1FD	27 F6		BEQ	RTN4
E1FF	2A F9		BPL	PIAOUT
E201	A7 02		STA A	02,X
E203	20 F0		BRA	RTN4
E205	FF A0 10	SAVGET	STX	XTEMP
E208	FE A0 0A		LDX	PORTAD
E20B	B6 A0 0B		LDA A	PORTAD+1
E20E	81 10		CMP A	#\$10
				IS IT A PIA ?

E210	39		RTS		
E211	4D	INCHA	TST A		OK IF MSR IS SET
E212	2B 15		RMT	KEYIN	GO TO KEYBOARD
E214	8D FF		BSR	SAVCFT	GET PORT
E216	2C 04		RGE	PJAIN	ITS A PIA
E218	A6 01	ACJAIN	LIA A	01,X	GET INPUT
E21A	20 02		BRA	NUL OUT	
E21C	A6 00	PJAIN	LIA A	0,X	GET INPUT
E21E	FE A0 10	NUL OUT	LIX	XTEMP	RECOVER X
E221	84 7F	NULJ	AND A	#\$7F	7 BITS ONLY
E223	81 7F		CMF A	#\$7F	A RUIROUT ?
E225	27 16		BEQ	BLINK	GO, NO INPUT
E227	20 0E		BRA	ECHOCK	ECHO ?
E229	B6 80 1E	KEYIN	LIA A	#\$01F	GET DATA
E22C	20 09		BRA	ECHOCK	ECHO IT?
E22E	A6 01	PJACK	LIA A	01,X	GET STATUS
E230	4C		JNC A		FF=00
E231	27 8E		BEQ	KEYCK	NO I/O CARD
E233	2A 8C		BPL	KEYCK	NO INPUT
E235	20 84		BRA	RTN3	INPUT, SET FLAG
E237	7D A0 0C	ECHOCK	TST	PORECH	ECHO FLAG
E23A	27 95		BEQ	OUTFFF	ECHO
E23C	39		RTS		NO ECHO
E23D	7A A0 19	BLINK	DEC	BLNKTM+1	DECREMENT TIME
E240	26 13		BNE	RTNY	OK FOR BORROW
E242	7A A0 18		DEC	BLNKTM	CORRECT BORROW
E245	26 0E	BLNK1	BNE	RTNY	TIME UP? NO, RETURN
E247	FF A0 10		STX	XTEMP	SAVE IT
E24A	CE 08 00		LIX	#\$0800	YES, RESET TIMER
E24D	FF A0 18		STX	BLNKTM	SAVE TIME COUNT
E250	8D 3D		BSR	CURSOR	CHANGE CURSOR
E252	FF A0 10		LIX	XTEMP	RESTORE X
E255	39	RTNY	RTS		GO
E256	81 0D	*VIDEO	OUTPUT	ROUTINE	PUTS A ON SCREEN (A CHANGED)
E258	27 42	VIDEO	CMF A	#\$0D	CHECK FOR CARRIAGE RETN
E25A	81 0A		BEQ	DOCR	
E25C	27 4A		CMF A	#\$0A	CHECK FOR LINE FEED
E25E	81 01		BEQ	DOIF	
E260	27 5C		CMF A	#\$01	CHECK FOR HOME-UP (CNTL A)
E262	81 16		BEQ	DOCNDA	
E264	27 5F		CMF A	#\$16	CHECK FOR CLEAR TO END (CNTL V)
E266	81 08		BEQ	DOCNDA	
E268	27 6D		CMF A	#\$08	CHECK FOR BACKSPACE (CNTL H)
E26A	81 17		BEQ	DOCNTH	
E26C	27 76		CMF A	#\$17	CHECK FOR UP CURSOR (CNTL W)
E26E	81 13		BEQ	DOUP	
E270	27 74		CMF A	#\$13	CHECK FOR RIGHT CUR (CNTL S)
E272	7D A0 16		BEQ	DORT	
E275	26 05		TST	PROTL	CHECK WHETHER TO DISPLAY CTL CHAR
E277	81 20		BNE	VOUT	FLAG ON, PUT OUT ALL CTL CHAR
E279	2A 01		CMF A	#\$20	CHECK FOR OTHER CONTROL CHAR
E27B	39		BPL	VOUT	PUT OUT NON CNTL CHAR, IGNORE OTHER
E27C	FF A0 10	RTS	STX	XTEMP	SAVE INDEX REG
E27F	FE A0 14	VOUT	LIX	VIDPNT	GET POINTER
E282	A7 00		STA A	0,X	PUT OUT CHAR
E284	08		INX		GET NEXT CHAR POSN
E285	8C C4 00		CPX	#\$TOPSCR+1	24 TO END OF PAGE?
E288	26 02		BNE	VIDOT1	IF NOT, SKIP SCROLL
E28A	8D 69		BSR	DOROLL	SCROLL SCREEN UP ONE
E28C	FF A0 14	VIDOT1	STX	VIDPNT	SAVE POINTER
E28F	FE A0 14	*START CURSOR ON ROUTINE	CURSOR	LIX	VIDPNT
					GET POINTER

E292 A6 00	LDA A 0,X	GET CHARACTER AT X
E294 88 80	FOR A \$\$R0	FLIP REVERSE BIT
E296 A7 00	STA A 0,X	REPLACE REVERSED CHAR
E298 FE A0 10	LDX XTEMP	RESTORE X
E29B 39	RTS	RETURN
*CARRIAGE RETURN ROUTINE		
E29C 8D 4A	DOCR BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E29E B6 A0 15	LDA A VIDPNT+1	GET 15 BYTE
E2A1 84 C0	AND A \$\$C0	MAKE 15 BITS 0
E2A3 B7 A0 15	STA A VIDPNT+1	
E2A6 20 F7	BRA CURSOR	TURN ON CURSOR AND RETURN
*LINE FEED ROUTINE		
E2A8 8D 3E	DOLF BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E2AA 86 40	LDA A \$64	GO 64 CHARACTERS FORWARD
E2AC 08	DOLF1 INX	PUSH CURSOR POSN FORWARD ONE
E2AD 8C C4 00	CPX \$TOPSCR+1024	PAST END YET?
E2B0 27 05	BEQ DOLF2	IF PAST, SCROLL AND CONTINUE
E2B2 4A	DEC A	DECREMENT A ONE
E2B3 26 F7	BNE DOLF1	IF A IS NOT 0, CONTINUE
E2B5 20 D5	BRA VIDOT1	SAVE NEW CURSOR POSN, TURN ON
E2B7 36	DOLF2 PSH A	SAVE COUNTER
E2B8 8D 3B	BSR DOROLL	SCROLL SCREEN UP AND CLEAR A LINE
E2BA 09	DEX	CORRECT POINTER FOR RE-ENTRY
E2BB 32	PUL A	RESTORE COUNTER
E2BC 20 EE	BRA DOLF1	CONTINUE FORWARD MOVE
*HOME-UP ROUTINE		
E2BE 8D 28	DOCNTA BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E2C0 CE C0 00	LDX \$TOPSCR	POINT TO TOP OF SCREEN
E2C3 20 C7	BRA VIDOT1	CLEAN UP
*CLEAR TO END OF SCREEN ROUTINE		
E2C5 FF A0 10	DOCNTV STX XTEMP	SAVE X
E2C8 FE A0 14	LDX VIDPNT	
E2CB 86 20	LDA A \$\$20	GET A SPACE
E2CD A7 00	DOCNV1 STA A 0,X	PUT IN A SPACE
E2CF 08	INX	MOVE TO NEXT POSN
E2D0 8C C4 00	CPX \$TOPSCR+1024	TO END YET?
E2D3 26 F8	BNE DOCNV1	NO, CONTINUE
E2D5 20 B8	BRA CURSOR	PUT ON CURSOR AND RETURN
*BACKSPACE ROUTINE		
E2D7 8D 0F	DOCNTH BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E2D9 09	DEX	BACK UP ONE
E2DA 8C BF FF	CPX \$TOPSCR-1	CHECK FOR WRAP-AROUND
E2DD 26 AD	BNE VIDOT1	NO WRAP, ALL DONE
E2DF CE C3 FF	LDX \$TOPSCR+1023	CORRECT WRAP
E2E2 20 A8	VIDOT2 BRA VIDOT1	CLEAN UP AND GO
*BRIDGES FOR RELATIVE BRANCHES		
E2E4 20 2D	DOUP BRA DOUP1	
E2E6 20 3F	DORT BRA DORT1	
*CURSOR OFF ROUTINE		
E2E8 FF A0 10	RESTOR STX XTEMP	SAVE X REG
E2EB FE A0 14	LDX VIDPNT	GET CURSOR POSN
E2EE A6 00	LDA A 0,X	GET BYTE THERE
E2F0 84 7F	AND A \$\$7F	MASK OFF 7 BITS
E2F2 A7 00	STA A 0,X	REPLACE BYTE
E2F4 39	RTS	
*SCROLL UP AND CLEAR LINE ROUTINE		
E2F5 CE C0 00	DOROLL LDX \$TOPSCR	POINT TO TOP OF SCREEN
E2F8 A6 40	DOROL1 LDA A 64,X	GET CHAR ON 2ND LINE
E2FA A7 00	STA A 0,X	PUT CHAR AT POINTER
E2FC 08	INX	INCREMENT TO NEXT POSN
E2FD 8C C3 C0	CPX \$TOPSCR+960	CONTINUE TO BOTTOM LINE
E300 26 F6	BNE DOROL1	
E302 86 20	LDA A \$\$20	GET A SPACE

```

E304 A7 00      DOROL2 STA A 0,X      PUT IT IN PLACE
E306 08          INX                INCREMENT TO NEXT POSN
E307 8C C4 00    CPX                #TOPSCR+1024
E30A 26 F8      BNE DOROL2          CONTINUE TO END OF LINE
E30C CE C3 C0    LIX                #TOPSCR+960 POINT TO LAST LINE
E30F FF A0 14    STX                VJIPNT RESTORE POINTER
E312 39          RTS                RETURN

      *UP CURSOR ROUTINE
E313 8D D3      DOUP1 BSR RESTOR     TURN OFF CURSOR
E315 86 40      LDA A #64           SET COUNTER TO 64
E317 09          DOUP2 DEX           BACK UP ONE
E318 8C BF FF    CPX                #TOPSCR-1 WRAP AROUND?
E31B 27 05      BEQ WRAP            CORRECT IT
E31D 4A          DEC A              COUNT OFF ONE
E31E 26 F7      BNE DOUP2           CONTINUE TILL DONE
E320 20 C0      BRA VJNOT2          DONE, CLEAN UP AND GO
E322 CE C4 00    WRAP LIX            #TOPSCR+1024 GO TO BOTTOM
E325 20 F0      BRA DOUP2           CONTINUE

      *CURSOR RIGHT ROUTINE
E327 8D BF      DORT1 BSR RESTOR     TURN OFF CURSOR
E329 08          INX                GO RIGHT ONE
E32A 8C C4 00    CPX                #TOPSCR+1024
E32D 26 B3      BNE VJNOT2          DONE, GO
E32F 8D C4      BSR DOROLL          SCROLL LINE
E331 20 AF      BRA VJNOT2          DONE

```

TSC BASIC FOR THE 6800

Prepared by: David Shirk — TSC
Technical Report — B88

I. Introduction

In the Fall of 1977, Technical Systems Consultants decided to develop a BASIC interpreter for the 6800 microprocessor. There were several factors motivating this project. Highest on the list was the need for a generally available 6800 BASIC which offered more speed than that provided by the famed Uiterwyk BASIC, the first 6800 BASIC available. An excellent BASIC was available from Microsoft at the time but was priced to scare away most hobbyists and casual users. Another prompting factor was a series of articles in "Kilobaud" magazine which compared the various microcomputer BASIC's in speed (see references 1-3). In one of these articles (ref. 2), Bill Gates of Microsoft was quoted as saying "the 6502 is an inherently faster processor". This statement was apparently made because the Microsoft 6502 BASIC was currently the fastest they had written to that date. TSC has used the 6800, 8080, and 6502 microprocessors and has found no significant speed differences among them. In certain applications one may outperform the others, but these are usually specific instances. The 6800 BASIC was hopefully going to prove that the important speed factor is efficiency of the software and not the characteristics of the 3 micros mentioned.

Another remark along the same lines which we found troublesome was made by J. G. Letwin of Heath Company (see ref. 3). In comparing the Heath H8 and H11 computers running BASIC, the H11 came out on top by almost a factor of two. The comment was made that the "Heath H8 computer, an 8080A machine, performed considerably slower than did the H11 systems, for obvious reasons". These reasons were not "obvious" to us since the LSI-11 processor, even though a 16 bit machine, is not extremely fast. Again, TSC felt that a 6800 BASIC could be developed which would outperform the H11 BASIC (Note: We did not consider competing with the LSI-11 equipped with its floating point firmware since the same option is not available for the 6800).

The BASIC was developed over a fourteen month period. All of the original goals were met with the exception of one, the overall size of the program. The target was an interpreter which required 8K to 8.5K of memory. The final product is 9.5K, a value which is still very reasonable for the number of features supported. It was decided that in the never ending trade-off between size and speed of a program, speed should be the winning factor. This decision was made because memory is becoming less and less expensive, while the cost of CPU speed is somewhat fixed. The speed of the TSC 6800 BASIC exceeds all other currently available floating point BASIC's for 8 bit micros. The goal of outperforming the LSI-11 BASIC as supplied by the Heath Company was also achieved. All of the pertinent timing information will follow shortly.

The resultant BASIC is very easy to use and is compatible with the majority of BASIC's on the market. A full disk file version for the FLEX™ operating system will be available in the near future, as well as a 6809 version. The 6809 BASIC will show an even more dramatic improvement in speed and will be available in May, 1979!

II. Features of TSC BASIC

The TSC BASIC for the 6800 supports all of the standard BASIC statements and functions. Many extended features have been provided as well. A complete list of features appears in the appendix. Some of the highlights will be described here. One nice feature is the ability to use two letter variable names. Standard BASIC requires either single letter or letter followed by a number. TSC BASIC will allow the use of letter followed by letter which permits limited variable name mnemonics. Most BASIC's allow multiple statements per line. Some use a colon (':') as the separator while others use a backslash ('\'). TSC BASIC supports both, thus alleviating some confusion for those entering published BASIC programs.

A very important new feature provided is the 'IF THEN ELSE' construct. The majority of BASIC's only support the THEN clause. The addition of the 'ELSE' promotes a more structured type programming style, thus improving readability and conciseness of the program. Along with this, the input line buffer has been increased to 127 characters from the typical 72 to accept the longer lines possible with the 'IF THEN ELSE' statements.

'PEEK' and 'POKE' have been widely accepted as useful BASIC features. The big problem in the past has been the necessity of referencing machine memory addresses in decimal, whereas most users think hex when it comes to address locations. The 'HEX' function has been implemented for this application. This unique function will allow a string expression as an argument and return an equivalent decimal number. The string argument is interpreted as a string of hex digits. As an example, to examine the contents of location \$8004 (the '\$' implies hex), the following statement may be used; `PRINT PEEK(HEX("8004"))`. This is much easier than having to do a manual conversion from hex to decimal before entering the statement! The HEX function also comes in handy when using the logical operators (AND, NOT, and OR) to perform bit wise operations. The mask can be represented as a hex value as opposed to using decimal.

Many of the popular BASIC's put restricting limits on several of the statements, such as only allowing a maximum of 8 nested FOR-NEXT loops. TSC BASIC allows as many nested loops and subroutine calls as memory

will permit. This applies to string variables as well. Strings may be any length (limited to 65,535 because of the limit on memory) and are fully dynamic (their length does not have to be specified before use and may change in size at any time). Array sizes are also limited only by the amount of memory installed in the machine. Both single and double dimensioned arrays are supported and can be floating point or string type variables. It should be noted that subscripts of 0 are permitted in TSC BASIC!

A very convenient string oriented statement has been included, 'INPUT LINE'. This feature allows a complete input line (leading spaces, commas, quotes, etc.) to be assigned to a string variable. This solves the problem of entering certain characters from an INPUT statement. Just a few of the nice features have been described here. For a complete list of commands, statements, functions, and specifications, consult the appendix.

III. Timing Comparisons

The features were presented before the timing information because many times, features are more important. For those who find speed to be the important factor, the following tables will show TSC BASIC to be on top! Table I shows the results of the 7 "Kilobaud" benchmarks (references 1 and 2). Since a 2 megahertz 6502 was listed, the TSC BASIC is also listed at 2 megahertz along with the standard speed. Table II shows the results of the "Heath benchmarks" also presented in "Kilobaud" magazine (reference 3). From these results it can be seen that the TSC BASIC runs faster overall than the Heath H11 computer! Examine these tables closely. They speak for themselves.

IV. Conclusion

TSC succeeded in all of its original goals in implementing the TSC BASIC for the 6800. A wide variety of statements and functions are supported and the speed of the interpreter exceeds that of all other floating point BASIC's for 8 bit micros. Overall, the BASIC is an efficient and easy to use program!

V. References

1. T. Rugg, "BASIC Timing Comparisons", KILOBAUD, June 1977, pp 66-70
2. T. Rugg, "BASIC Timing Comparisons - Revisited", KILOBAUD, Oct 1977, pp 20-25
3. J. Letwin, "Another Look at Benchmark Programs", KILOBAUD, Nov 1977, pp 98-101

TABLE I

BASIC & Machine	CPU	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ave.
TSC on SWTPC @ 2Mhz	6800	0.4	1.6	5.0	5.2	5.5	8.5	13.1	5.61
OSI 8K @ 2Mhz	6502	0.9	4.6	8.2	9.3	10.0	14.8	21.6	9.91
TSC on SWTPC @ 1Mhz	6800	0.9	3.2	10.1	10.4	11.0	16.9	26.2	11.24
OSI 8K @ 1Mhz	6502	1.6	8.9	16.2	18.2	19.7	29.2	42.9	19.53
PET BASIC	6502	1.7	9.8	18.6	20.4	22.1	32.6	51.3	22.36
Altair 8K (4.0)	8080	1.7	10.2	21.0	22.5	24.3	36.7	52.4	24.11
TRS 80 Level II	780	2.6	10.9	25.4	26.1	31.0	51.0	78.4	32.2
Altair 680B (3.2)	6800	2.5	16.3	30.7	33.4	36.3	55.9	81.8	36.7
HEATH H8	8080	3.5	15.6	31.5	34.5	41.4	67.6	97.4	41.64
Tektronix Level 5	6800	4.8	14.0	33.0	36.3	40.7	68.8	103.8	43.04

Computer Ware BASIC	6800	8.1	16.0	44.6	49.7	53.1	93.0	116.9	54.49
SWTPC BASIC (3.5)	6800	12.8	21.4	82.8	90.5	93.9	149.7	175.7	89.54

TABLE II

Operation	TSC*	TSC	H11	H8
A=B	0.4	0.9	0.5	3.0
B+C	0.4	0.8	1.0	2.3
B-C	0.5	0.9	1.1	2.5
B*C	0.9	1.9	1.9	3.8
B/C	1.2	2.4	2.0	4.9
BTC	14.3	28.5	23	35
SIN(B)	6.5	13	14	13
COS(B)	7.5	15	16	13
TAN(B)	10.9	21.9	32	24
ATN(B)	8.3	16.5	19	21
LOG(B)	7.7	15.3	14	19
SQR(B)	3.1	6.3	7.2	13
EXP(B)	6.5	13	13	15
5 FOR NEXT	2.4	4.8	7.5	23
A\$=B\$	0.9	1.9	1.0	4.6
B\$+C\$	0.5	1.0	2.0	4.5
LEFT\$(B\$,1)	0.4	0.8	1.7	5.8
A=B(I)	0.2	0.4	0.5	2.6
Totals	72	145	157	210

*Note: The first column is TSC at 2 Megahertz.
Second is at 1 Megahertz.

Ed's Note: Information received as of the date of this article indicate the following may be of some interest to users of SWTPC BASIC, when converting to TSC BASIC.

1. The disk versions will load from disk BASIC source in SWTPC format.

2. The cassette version handles certain delimiters (etc.) in SWTPC BASIC different than is handled in TSC BASIC. This probably means that some SWTPC BASIC developed programs on tape, will not load into TSC BASIC.

3. Coming later is the extended version of TSC BASIC, this version will have extended math precision (12 digits) and some additional commands for business type applications. (PRINT USING, etc.)

4. For those upgrading to the 6809, TSC will have soon the 6809 BASIC. Watch TSC advertising in 68 Micro Journal.

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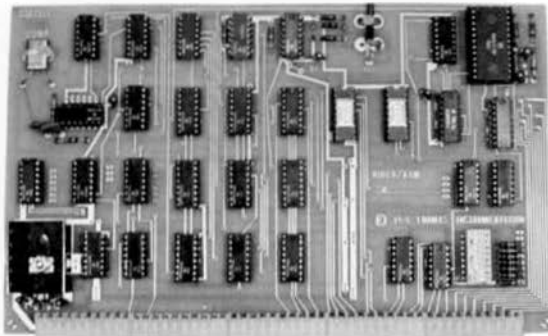
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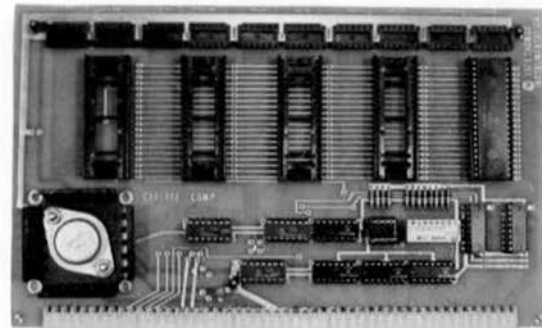
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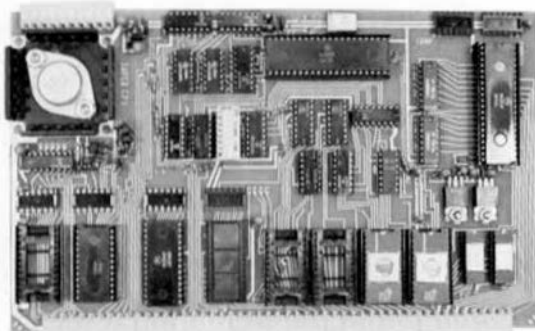
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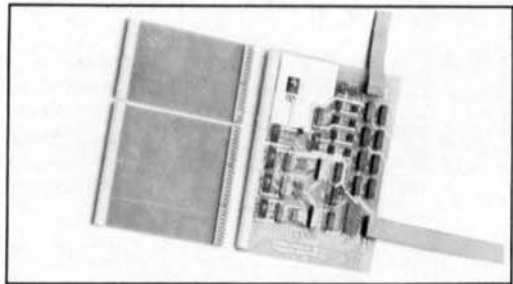
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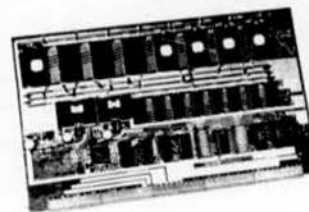
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